Written and illustrated by
YUZO TAKADA

Adapted by
TOSHI YOSHIDA
TOREN SMITH
WAYNE TRUMAN

The Manga Hit Comes To America!

$2.25 U.S./$2.75 Can.

Not intended for children

In crowded Tokyo, a Japanese student, Yakumo, meets a ragged young girl, Pai, who carries a letter for him from her missing father – a researcher into the occult. The letter reveals that Pai is actually from the spirit world, one of the last survivors of a race known as the Treiclops, or "Three-Eyed Ones," who supposedly know the secret of eternal life!

THIS ISSUE: In "Rebirth," Yukumo scoffs at the story until Pai saves his life with her strange powers. He eventually aids her on a quest the locks them in battle with the very avatars of Evil on Earth...and the fate of his soul hangs in the balance!

Chapter One
Of Five:
"REBIRTH"

3X3 Eyes, all prominent characters in this issue, and the distinctive likenesses thereof, are TM Yuko Takada. Story and art © 1991 Yuko Takada. All rights reserved. Published by special arrangement with Studio Proteus.

INNOVATION

サザン アィズ 3×3 EYES™

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3 X 3 EYES, We're Watching You...

For a long time, I've avoided investigating the "Manga mystique." Not only did I not know how to pronounce it -- "mang-uh" instead of, say, "munj-uh," which is an Italian pronunciation for the word that means "eat" but my parents said was spelled the same -- it all looked like "Speed Racer eyes" to me. But that wasn't really giving a whole, major part of the worldwide comics publishing culture a fair shake.

Then, a few years ago, I discovered something called *Akira*, and I began negotiating the rights to bring it into America to offer to a publisher for whom I was freelance packaging a lot of books. But a lot of us got burned by that guy, we never concluded the deal I was so hot on moving ahead with, and *Akira* went the way of all saints until Marvel discovered it and released it. And I think they did a better job with it than we would have done at the time.

Now, five years later, I have a second opportunity to be involved in publishing a manga project.

3 X 3 EYES.

In 1989, now-DC person Jerry Novick was employed here at Innovation for probably about an hour and a half, and one of his contacts was Toren Smith over at Studio Proteus. He called Toren when I lamented about not having a manga project to test the waters. After a year and a half of hard work on the part of Toren Smith working across international waters, he got ***3 X 3 EYES*** for us -- and I'm glad he did.

Right now, Yuzo Takada's terrific tale is the only regular black-and-white comic book series we're publishing. We kept it in B&W because that was the format it was intended for.

It stands out as a specialty in our line of Innovation comics. If you haven't seen Innovation lately, you're missing out on a bunch of excellent full-color series. Such as: ***NIGHTMARES ON ELM STREET*** and ***CHILD'S PLAY: THE SERIES*** and ***LOST IN SPACE*** and ***QUANTUM LEAP*** and ***Anne Rice's THE VAMPIRE LESTAT*** and ***Piers Anthony's Incarnations of Immortality*** beginning with ***ON A PALE HORSE*** and a whole bunch of stuff coming up for Halloween.

This first issue, in fact, "officially" premieres at San Diego Con, so you should even be able to get the fine folks at Studio Proteus to autograph it if you're one of the 15,000 or so people who'll be there for the frenetic fun. Yeah, we'll all be there at the Innovation booth, as well.

Please write and let me know what you think of Yuzo Takada's ***3 X 3 EYES***, okay? I'd like to start a lettercol in these pages. Meantime? I'm just gonna sit back, read this lovely first issue just as you will, and wonder how editor/art director George Broderick will fit a 33-page story into a 32-page book.

And I'll even wonder if, if the main character gets glasses, will the book become ***3 x 4 EYES***?

And will that bad joke even translate?

Enjoy!

-- David Campiti
June, 1991

3 X 3 EYES™, Vol. 1, No. 1, September 1991 issue. *Part 1 of 3.* Published by special arrangement with Studio Proteus, 1986 15th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Published by the INNOVATIVE CORPORATION, 3622 Jacob Street, Wheeling, WV 26003, (304) 232-7701. David Campiti, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief. Diana Light, Operations & Marketing Manager. George Broderick, Jr., Art Director. Sandy French, Office Manager. TM & © 1991 by Yuzo Takada. All rights reserved. First published in Japan in 1983 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo. English translation rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd. © English translation and lettering © 1991 Studio Proteus. Innovation logo TM Innovative Corp. Editorial © 1991 Innovative Corp. All rights reserved. For advertising rates, call (304) 232-7703. *It's an Innovation Publication!*

1983: TIBET
I...
I PROMISE...
... I'LL MAKE YOU HUMAN...
SOMEDAY...
I... I PROMISE...
I...
....

サザン アィズ
3×3EYES

STORY AND ART BY: Yuzo Takada
TRANSLATED BY: Toren Smith & Toshi Yoshida
LETTERING AND TOUCH-UP BY: Wayne Truman
EDITED BY: George "Who, me?" Broderick, Jr.

SPECIAL THANKS TO YUKA ANDO (KODANSHA)
ENGLISH VERSION PRODUCED BY STUDIO PROTEUS FOR INNOVATION

CHAPTER ONE:
REBIRTH

1987: SHINJUKU AREA, TOKYO
OH, MAN! I'M IN IT, NOW!!

I'M LATE!
SERIOUSLY LATE!
PLEASE
Take me to Junin-Machi in Shinjuku

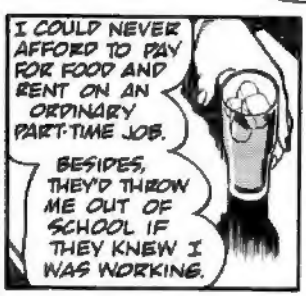
WHAT'S WITH THAT GIRL...? JEEZ, SHE'S SURE DIRTY!
JUNIN-MACHI...
THAT'S WHERE I LIVE...
.....
.....
GUESS I COULD TELL HER HOW TO GET THERE..
WHA-?!
UMO
WHUD
ﾌﾞﾛﾛﾛ

〈STOP, THIEF!〉
小倫!!
!!
HEY, YOU!! STO--
STAY OUTTA IT, PUNK!!
WHROK
HRRK!

SHIT!
KUMO
ARE...
ARE YOU OKAY?!
YEAH.. OWW..
謝謝(シエシエ)
THANK YOU SO MUCH!!
HEH, HEH... NO PROB.

T/V BAR
CULTURE SHOCK
SAY... ARE YOU CHINESE? WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
I AM PAI.
NICE NAME! I'M... ER...
....

UMM... LOOK...
I GOTTA TELL YOU... I'M NOT REALLY A TRANSVESTITE.
?
WHEN I WAS JUST NINE, MY MOM RAN AWAY FROM HOME. FOUR YEARS LATER, MY DAD WENT MISSING IN TIBET WHILE ON A SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION.


I COULD NEVER AFFORD TO PAY FOR FOOD AND RENT ON AN ORDINARY PART-TIME JOB.
BESIDES, THEY'D THROW ME OUT OF SCHOOL IF THEY KNEW I WAS WORKING.

BUT IF ANY OF MY TEACHERS SEES ME HERE, THEY'RE NOT GONNA SAY ANYTHING, RIGHT?
AND IT PAYS $30 AN HOUR, JUST FOR SERVING DRINKS!

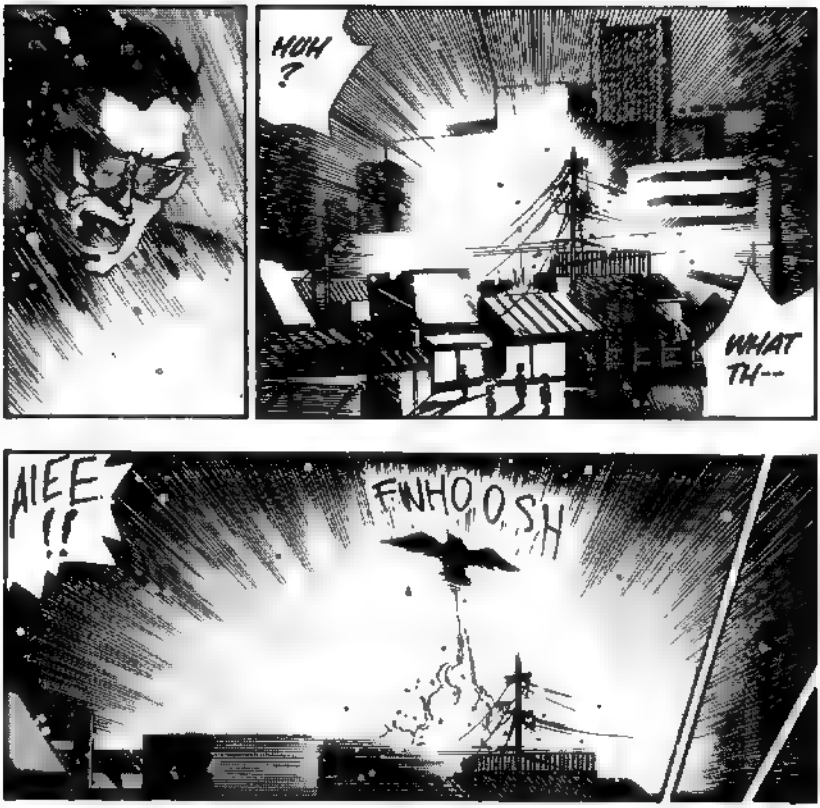
YOU SAY YOU JUST SERVE DRINK, YES? REALLY SO?
EH HEH HEH..
I WONDER HOW WELL SHE UNDERSTANDS JAPANESE...?
HEY, YAKUMO... WHO'S THE SWEETIE?
YEAH, IS SHE YOUR GIRLFRIEND? YOU'RE BREAKING MY HEART!
!!
HERE WE THOUGHT YOU WERE SO INNOCENT... SEVENTEEN AND STILL A VIRGIN!
AH, YOU GUYS! C'MON, CUT IT OUT!
YA... KU... MO?
HUH?

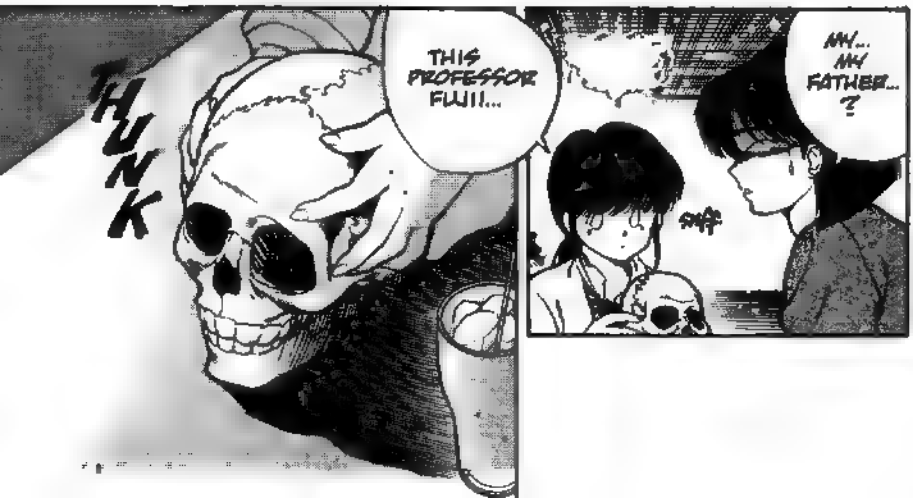
!!
ARE YOU SON OF PROFESSOR SATORU FUJII ?
THIS "YAKUMO"... ?
YAKUMO FUJII
#3 JUNIN-MACHI #302, SHINJUKU
TOKYO, JAPAN
YAKUMO FUJII... ?
WELL, YEAH... THAT'S ME...
BUT--
:sniff:
:sniff:
:sniff:

WAAH!
YAKUMO!!
FOUR YEARS! I LOOK FOUR YEARS SINCE I LEAVE TIBET!!
OH, YAKUMO!! YAKUMO!!
I.. I LOOK SO HARD!
FINALLY I FIND YOU!!
WHA... WHAT THE HELL...?
sniff sniff
ALL RIGHT, JERK! WHAT DID YOU DO TO THAT POOR GIRL?!
BOSS, YOU GOTTA HELP ME!!
I REALLY DON'T SEE WHY I SHOULD...WELL, WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME WHAT GOT STOLEN. I'LL HAVE A COUPLE OF THE BOYS* LOOK FOR THE MUGGER.

*: YAKUZA (JAPANESE MAFIA) "SOLDIERS"

"I MANAGED TO GRAB HER BACKPACK, BUT HE GOT THIS WEIRD STAFF THING SHE HAD..."
DAMN.. ALL THAT, AND THIS IS ALL I GET...
RIK
?
!?!


HUH ?
WHAT TH--
AIEE !!
FWHOOSH


THUNK
THIS PROFESSOR FUJII...
MM... MY FATHER...?

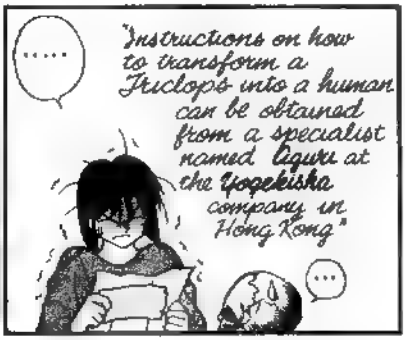
HEH HEH...
FOR ME, AS A KID, "PROFESSOR OF ANTHROPOLOGY" JUST MEANT THIS MONSTER-CRAZY OLD GUY WHO LEFT ME AND MY MOM ALONE WHILE HE RAN OFF AROUND THE WORLD CHASING AFTER DREAMS.
COME ON, DEAR~ I THINK YOU NEED A SHOWER
GEE...I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR DAD WAS AN IMPORTANT SCIENTIST...
"Dear Yakumo. How are you? I hope you have been well."
"Please forgive your father for not contacting you these past six months."
"SIX MONTHS"..? IT'S BEEN FOUR YEARS!
"I've been trying to make it overland to Kunmin from Tibet."
"but unfortunately, it seems I may be leaving this world right here."

"I beg you, my son please honor this one last request from your delinquent father"
UHHH...
"After making over the Changapurna pass, I lost my way. Finally, exhausted and starved, I collapsed."
FWMP
I was far from any known populated area
"With no one to save me, I thought it was all over, but."
SKCH SKCH
"Her name is Pau. She found me and tried to nurse me back to health.
"But more than that

"...Pai is the sole survivor of a mystic race. once said to possess the power of eternal life. I have searched all my life to find this race.
the Sanji-yanunkaka. the fabled Triclops"
"They've taken a different path in their evolution than man."
"perhaps you could even call them monsters"
THIS IS NUTS!
I'M SO SICK OF THIS LOONEY "MONSTER" OBSESSION OF HIS...!
HEH HEH.
"Pai does not yet know how to use the power of immortality, but she claims to have been alive for the last three hundred years"
PROFESSOR..
"Why did all the others of her race disappear leaving her behind?"
I WANT BECOME HUMAN!!
!!

"It's true. long ago for some unknown reason. they conceived a desire to become human
VERY WELL, PAI-- I PROMISE TO HELP YOU!
YA-HOO!
"Once they discovered how to do so. they traded their immortality for the brief span of a human."

EVEN IF I DIE. MY SON YAKUMO WILL SEE THAT YOUR WISH IS GRANTED.


.....
"Instructions on how to transform a Triclops into a human can be obtained from a specialist named Aguri at the Yogekisha company in Hong Kong."

BAM BAM

FATHER... YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT MY LIFE HAS BEEN LIKE...

"Please, my son! Take Pai to Hong Kong to see Aguru.. it is my last request.."
YOU'VE GOT TO BE JOKING! YOU REALLY EXPECT ME TO DROP EVERYTHING AND TAKE THAT GRUBBY--

FUJI TV
HEADLINE NEWS
I THOUGHT I MIGHT AS WELL FIX HER UP WITH SOME CLOTHES AND MAKEUP WHILE I WAS AT IT... HEE, HEE!
HOW... HOW I LOOK, YAKUMO?

YOU'RE..
YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL...
I...
UH...
I MEAN...
"Please fulfill my promise to Pai. Yakumo."
...
LOOK, IT'S JUST TOO MUCH TO ASK! BESIDES, THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS MONSTERS...
SONY
豪邪 (TAKUMA!!)
WHA--?

--AND THE GUNS OF THE POLICE SEEM TO HAVE NO EFFECT SINCE THIS MONSTROUS CREATURE APPEARED JUST A FEW MINUTES AGO, HUNDREDS HAVE FLED SHINJUKU.
AS YOU CAN SEE, IT APPEARS TO BE SOME SORT OF GIGANTIC MAN-FACED BIRD, A CREATURE OUT OF LEGEND! AUTHORITIES ARE--
SONY
HEY! HEY, PAI!!
VIDEO
新宿
FROM INSIDE MY STAFF! MY FRIEND!!
WHAT?! HOLD ON A SEC-- I DON'T WANNA MEET THAT THING!!
WAIT UP! WHAT'S THIS "TAKUHI"--?
MY FRIEND!

TAKUMI UPSET? HE GONE LITTLE CRAZY! WE MUST MAKE HIM CALM QUICK OR HE GO REALLY CRAZY!!
WHAT'S THIS "WE" STUFF !?!
HMM ?
LIMO
!!

STAND BY
HOLY SHI-!

(TAKUMI, STOP!! DON'T YOU RECOGNIZE ME?!)

SPLASH
YOSH!

KREAA!
SUPERBOM
HAPPY HOUR
BAR
JACK'S
THE MONSTER'S GETTING OUT OF CONTROL!!
UNFORTUNATELY, THE LATEST REPORTS ARE THAT THE NATIONAL GUARD HAS NOT YET BEEN MOBILIZED!
SUNTORY
OLD

UHH...
PAI !!

AM... AM I GOING TO DIE...?
OH, NO...
WINCH
〈NO...〉
〈NO!!〉
〈YOU MUST NOT DIE!!〉

YAKUMO
!!

P..
PAI
I..I
DON'T
BELIEVE
IT..
YOU..
YOU
REALLY..
..AREN'T
HUMAN..
!
SSSSHHHH

FSSs
YAKUMO..

Osaka

IN THIS HARSH LIGHT OF DAWN, LAST NIGHT SEEMS LIKE A DREAM.
WHERE DID THAT MONSTER BIRD COME FROM? WHERE DID IT DISAPPEAR TO?

AND FURTHERMORE...
...WHAT WAS THAT EERIE LIGHT THAT ENVELOPED THE GIANT CREATURE?

SO MANY MYSTERIES...

...
THERE'S NO BLOOD..? AND THERE'S PAI'S STAFF!
IT... IT WASN'T JUST A DREAM, WAS IT..?
.....
YA... YAKUMO...

YAKUMO!
YOU... YOU OKAY?
HEH HEH.. I DUNNO WHAT HAPPENED, BUT I FEEL GREAT!
ALL RIGHT, PAI--I'LL TAKE YOU TO HONG KONG!
I'LL KEEP THE PROMISE--I'LL HELP YOU TO BECOME HUMAN!

HOTEL
TO BE CONTINUED...

INNOVATION

サザン アィズ
3×3 EYES™

2

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The Eyes Have It!

Welcome to the second Innovation issue of creator Yuzo Takada's manga extravaganza, *3 X 3 EYES*!

I'm writing this inside front cover the day before the San Diego Con begins -- so, although the first issue has shipped from the printer (on-time, much to the chagrin and chagrimace of skeptics), we won't be getting our first reactions to the book until tomorrow.

We hope the letter-writers among you will let us know what you think. Manga fans appear to be a devout and expressive large group, so I'm looking forward to some extremely interesting and insightful letters.

A suggestion or two from you about what to call the letter column wouldn't hurt our feelings, either.

I'm big on hearing about the background of creators on projects I enjoy; if you're the same way, you'll like the feature (with photos!) on Yuzo Takada offered up on page 32 of this very issue! Thanks to Toren Smith and the gang at Studio Proteus for supplying it.

When we're not busy being impressed by the art coming in from Studio Proteus each month (hmm, we need to get the third issue's art from Toren while we're out here), *3 X 3 EYES* sort-of editor George Broderick and I seem to be eating up a lot of time on various "pet projects" that tickle our fancies to be working on. George is chugging away big-time on *QUANTUM LEAP*, based on the NBC-TV hit show. I've read the first issue he's written, and the stories for the next half-dozen stories he's commissioned, and can say they're precisely right for the book. It's like reading new episodes of the TV show at it's best. And Mark Jones is doing one heckuva job illustrating, as well.

I'm spending a lot of time working on *LOST IN SPACE*, as is Bill Mumy. Yes, it's late. But that's partly because the first three issues are all in Viacom's hands, awaiting approvals. (The fourth issue is chugging along nicely right now in artist Michal Dutkiewicz's hands.) When they've finally gotten through their logjam of approvals, we hope to release that title on a bi-weekly schedule for the first several issues.

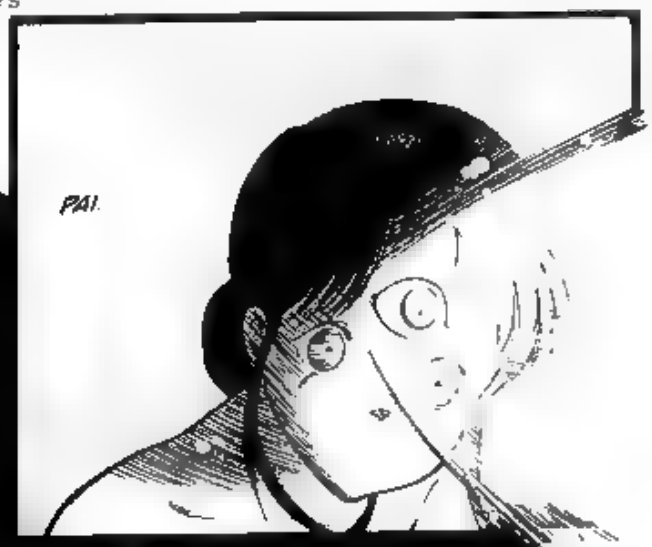
Obviously, with the interest generated in the fan press, plus *Starlog*, plus *Entertainment Tonight*, plus *Jeopardy!* as April 30th's $400 Video Daily Double, we want to deliver it to the comics shops as soon as possible.

If you're a fan of black-and-white books in general, remember that *3 X 3 EYES* isn't the only B&W title Innovation publishes. "Good Girl Art" fans will appreciate Bill Ward's classic Golden Age strip *TORCHY*, now in its fourth issue, featuring covers by painters Olivia De Beradinis and Brian Stelfreeze, among others.

Hey -- as long as you enjoy our books, we'll keep on publishing them!

See you next month.

-- David Campiti
On The Convention Trail
July, 1991



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Lettering and Touch-ups by
WAYNE TRUMAN

Edited by:
GEORGE BRODERICK, JR.

SPECIAL THANKS TO **YUKA ANDO**
(KODANSHA)

English version produced by
Studio Proteus for **Innovation**

Chapter Two:
Sanfiyan

旅館
大飯店
蟹
公園
九龍
城寨

EH. EXCUSE ME...
YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO HAVE HEARD OF A PLACE CALLED "YOSEKISHA," WOULD YOU...?

S-S-SORRY TO B-BOTHER YOU...
HEH, HEH...
MY NAME'S YAKUMO...

THIS IS PAI...WE CAME ALL THE WAY TO HONG KONG TO GET SOME INFORMATION ON TURNING A TRICLOPS...ER, A KIND OF MONSTER... INTO A HUMAN, AT THIS YOGEKISHA PLACE.
HEH, HEH... Y'KNOW, I DON'T THINK YOU GUYS CAN UNDERSTAND A WORD OF JAPANESE...

ALL RIGHT, PAI .. YOUR TURN. YOU TALK TO THEM!
SUREE !
WHEAU(U)

THEY GOING TO MAKE ME HUMAN-- THAT GREAT, YES?
HEE HEE HEE
ACK !
.....

AW, GEEZ...
WHY'D YOU HAVE TO GO AND SAY SOMETHING STUPID LIKE THAT?!
AND IN JAPANESE, TOO! AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE A CHINESE MONSTER?!
THIS LITTLE TRIP IS COSTING ME 1200 BUCKS, SO LET'S TRY TO BE A LITTLE SERIOUS, OKAY?
I SORRY!
YOU DON'T LOOK VERY SORRY WITH THAT GRIN ON YOUR FACE, Y'KNOW!
SORRY, BUT I SO HAPPY! I GET TO BE HUMAN!!
GEEZ...
...YOU LIKE HUMANS THAT MUCH?
YES!

HEY...
Dairy Ice Cream Bar
I WAS WONDERING...
...JUST WHY IS IT THAT YOU WANT TO BECOME HUMAN?
DON'T KNOW!
HUH?!
I BEEN WANTING IT FOR 300 YEARS...
...BUT I FORGOTTEN WHY!

BEEP BEEP BEEP
MAN, NOTHING SEEMS TO BOTHER HER!
WELL, ANYWAY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING. I PROMISED TO MAKE YOU HUMAN, AND THAT'S WHAT I'M GONNA DO!
YAY!
PROMISE?
YOU BET... I PROMISE!
REALLY FOR TRUE PROMISE?
REALLY HONESTLY FOR TRUE PROMISE!!
CROSS YOUR HEART AN' HOPE TO DIE PROMISE?
YEAH! CROSS MY HEART AND HOPE TO--
HOOO

—DIE...
UH OH
SKREEEEE
GYAAA!
?
!!
FWUNCH

WH-WHAT THE HELL?!
SOMEBODY CALL AN AMBULANCE!
SOME KID JUST GOT RUN OVER BY A BUS!!
I...I THINK IT'S T-TOO LATE FOR AN AMBULANCE...

MY GOD.. I THINK I'M GOING TO BE SICK...
WE GOTTA GET THE BODY OUT FROM UNDER THERE!
NO! LEAVE IT FOR THE POLICE!
OH, GOD... IT FINALLY HAPPENED..
NOW I'M GONNA LOSE MY JOB.
YAKUMO...!!
YAKUMO, WHAT GOING ON?
WHERE ARE YOU?! YAKUMO?!

PAI...
?
OW
OW
OW...
!?
DAMN, THAT HURT! AND MY PANTS ARE WRECKED!
LEARN HOW TO DRIVE, MAC! DON'T YOU KNOW WHAT A WALK SIGNAL LOOKS LIKE?
EE..
...OOPS!

S-SORRY ABOUT THAT!!
WHAT HAPPEN, YAKUMO?! YOU HURT YOUR KNEE?!
I THOUGHT I DID, BUT..
<HEY..>
<HEY, KID-- ARE YOU REALLY ALL RIGHT?>
HUH?
<I SAW YOU GET RUN OVER BY THAT BUS!>
UH, NO, I...
<I CAN NOT SPEAK CHINESE.>

SEE...
SEE YOU LATER !!
.....
HMM...
302

THIS IS ALL REALLY WEIRD.
WHENEVER I GET HURT IT HEALS UP REAL FAST...
...EVER SINCE TAKUHI ALMOST KILLED ME...
...AND THIS MARK APPEARED ON MY FOREHEAD.
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME...?
SKSSHHH
.....
KCHAK
GUESS ALL I CAN DO IS FIND YOGEKISHA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND ASK THEM ABOUT THIS, TOO.
.....
MAN, NOTHING FAZES HER!
ZZZZZ

MILD
"YOGEKISHA"...?
NEVER HEARD OF IT.
GEE...ALL YOU KNOW IS TH' NAME?
PISS OFF, KID.
DUNNO...
SORRY!

THIS IS A WASTE OF TIME-- WE NEED MORE INFO.
SURE HOPE WE STUMBLE ACROSS SOMETHING IN THE NEXT TWO DAYS..*
.....
SORRY TO BE SO MUCH TROUBLE...
AW, FORGET IT! IT'S NO PROBLEM, REALLY!
YOU KNEE IS HURT, SO PLEASE GO BACK TO HOTEL AND REST, OKAY?
H-HEY! WAIT--
*A 2 NIGHT/3 DAY HONG KONG TRIP FROM TOKYO COSTS ABOUT ¥600 PER PERSON.
IT OKAY! I CAN LOOK BY MYSELF OKAY! BYE-BYE!
WAIT! DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE HERE! MY KNEE'S PERFECT ALREADY!
I CAN'T SPEAK CHINESE! PAI!
OOPS! S-SORRY!

DAMN...
LOUIS
MYEXIA
AFTER HAVING WALKED ALL THE WAY FROM TIBET, SHE'S REALLY FAST!
GEEZ, I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO GET BACK TO MY HOTEL!
WITH ONLY TWO MORE DAYS, I CAN'T WASTE TIME JUST SITTING AROUND...
WELL, NOW WHAT?
IN TOKYO I COULD JUST ASK AT A POLICE STATION...
THAT IT!! THE POLICE! THE COPS OUGHTA BE ABLE TO FIND OUT WHERE YOGEKISHA IS!
.....

SO HOW DO I FIND A POLICE STATION...?

RIGHT! I'LL TAKE A TAXI!
!!
TAXI

MY...
MY WALLET...

WARNING
BEWARE OF PICKPOCKETS
すりにご注意
小心扒手

KANG
DAMN IT!!

NOW YOU TELL ME!!
WHY DOES THIS STUFF ALWAYS HAPPEN TO ME?!
KRASHANG

.....
<EXCUSE ME, SIR... I'M AFRAID YOU'LL HAVE TO COME TO THE STATION WITH US...>
.....
妖撃社
YOGEKISHA
<WE HAVE A JAPANESE BOY IN CUSTODY WHO CLAIMS TO BE LOOKING FOR A MR. AGURI AT YOUR COMPANY. CAN WE LEAVE HIM WITH YOU?>
YOGEKISHA
<MR. AGURI IS AWAY AT PRESENT... I'D RATHER NOT HAVE ANY TROUBLE...>
<HEY!! IT'S THAT INVINCIBLE KID FROM YESTERDAY!!>
Huh ?

YOGEKI
YOGEKI
YOGEKI
YOGEKI
MR. AGUZI IS THE CHIEF EDITOR, BUT HE'S NOT IN JUST NOW.
I'M THE ASSISTANT EDITOR, LI LING-LING. SORRY, MY JAPANESE IS A LITTLE RUSTY...
THAT'S OKAY... GEE, I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOGEKISHA WAS A PUBLISHING COMPANY...
WE'VE BEEN PUBLISHING OCCULT MAGAZINES AND BOOKS SINCE LONG BEFORE THE "GHOSTBUSTERS" BOOM, EVEN THOUGH OUR SALES WERE ONLY SO-SO.

WE COVER THE USUAL SORT OF STUFF...GHOSTS, POLTERGEISTS, MONSTERS... YOU KNOW. NOTHING TOO FANCY.
LET'S SEE...

WHUD
YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE TRICLOPS... WE CALL THEM THE "SANJIYAN"...

"SANJIYAN UNKARA... BEAUTIFUL IN APPEARANCE, AN IMMORTAL THREE-EYED CREATURE...
"...OFTEN BEWITCHING THE HUMAN HEART. ONCE IN THEIR LIFE THEY DEVOUR A HUMAN SOUL."
!!
...UMM... "FURTHERMORE..."
"HE WHOSE LIFE HAS BEEN DEVOURED SHALL BECOME ONE OF THE UNDEAD, AND HIS BODY SHALL NEVER PERISH.
"HIS SOUL SHALL NOT BE RELEASED UNTIL THE SANJIYAN DIES..."
"AND UPON HE WHOSE SOUL HAS BEEN DEVOURED SHALL APPEAR THE SYMBOL '无'."
无
"无" MEANS "NOTHINGNESS," OR "THE VOID"

SOUND LIKE THE TRICLOPS ARE REGULAR "ZOMBIE-MAKING" MACHINES, HUH? HEH,HEH...
.....
IT SAYS HERE THAT THE ZOMBIE WON'T DIE EVEN IF IT'S STARVED OR POISONED...
...BUT IT RETAINS ALL ITS SENSES, INCLUDING HUNGER AND PAIN.
HMM... THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS HERE, ANYWAY.
IT'S A COMMON SORT OF FOLKTALE... PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OBSESSED WITH THE IDEA OF BECOMING IMMORTAL.
NOW, AS FOR THE WAY TO CHANGE A TRICLOPS INTO A HUMAN BEING--
YAKUMO!
WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!
YOGEKISHA
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!!
YAKUMO!!
PAI... PAI ATE MY SOUL...
SHE MADE ME INTO A ZOMBIE!

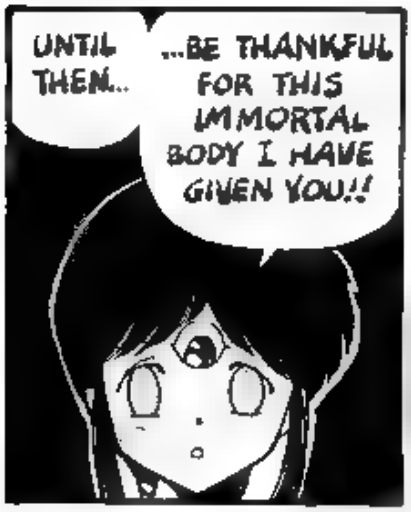
PA!!
YAKUMO!
I REALLY GLAD TO SEE YOU♡
I SO WORRIED WHEN I FIND YOU NOT HERE!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
YOU HUNGRY? LET'S GO EAT!

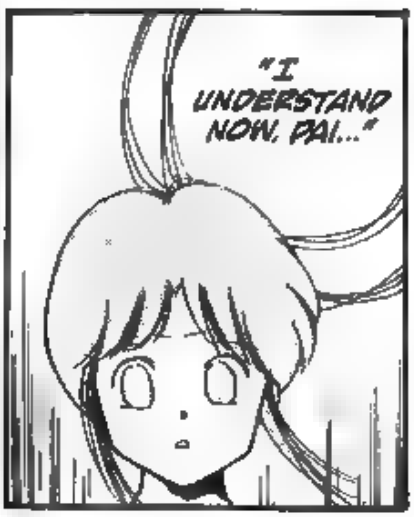
IS
IS IT TRUE_ ?
?
YOU DIDN'T EAT MY SOUL, DID YOU?!
TELL ME IT'S NOT TRUE!!
TELL ME I'M STILL A HUMAN, RIGHT?
I'M NOT ONE OF THE UNDEAD, AM I, PAI?!
WHAT YOU TALKING ABOUT?! WHY YAKUMO SO ANGRY?!
WAAH

SNIFF SNIFF
WELL, UH, I'M NOT EXACTLY ANGRY... IT'S JUST THAT IT WAS.. UH... A BIT OF A SHOCK, Y'KNOW.
YOU FOOL !!
I HAVE NOT "DEVOURED" YOUR MISERABLE SOUL..
..I HAVE MERELY MERGED IT WITH MY OWN.

W-WHO ARE YOU!? Y-YOU'RE NOT PAI !!
?!
HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME THUS-- I WHO HAVE RESCUED YOU FROM DEATH ETERNAL!
FZZAK
!!
SEE THE GIFT I HAVE GIVEN YOU!
I AM YOU, AND YOU ARE I.
IF I SHOULD DIE, THEN SO SHALL YOU.
AND SHOULD I BECOME HUMAN, THEN YOU SHALL RETURN TO HUMAN FORM AS WELL!

!!

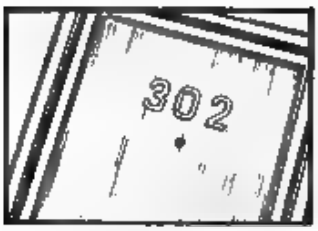

UNTIL THEN...
...BE THANKFUL FOR THIS IMMORTAL BODY I HAVE GIVEN YOU!!


"I UNDERSTAND NOW, PAI..."

"YOU SAVED MY LIFE..."

"I'D FORGOTTEN ALL ABOUT MY PROMISE TO MAKE YOU HUMAN.
"WHAT A FOOL I'VE BEEN!"

"BUT...
"HOW CAN I DO IT? HOW CAN I MAKE YOU HUMAN..?"

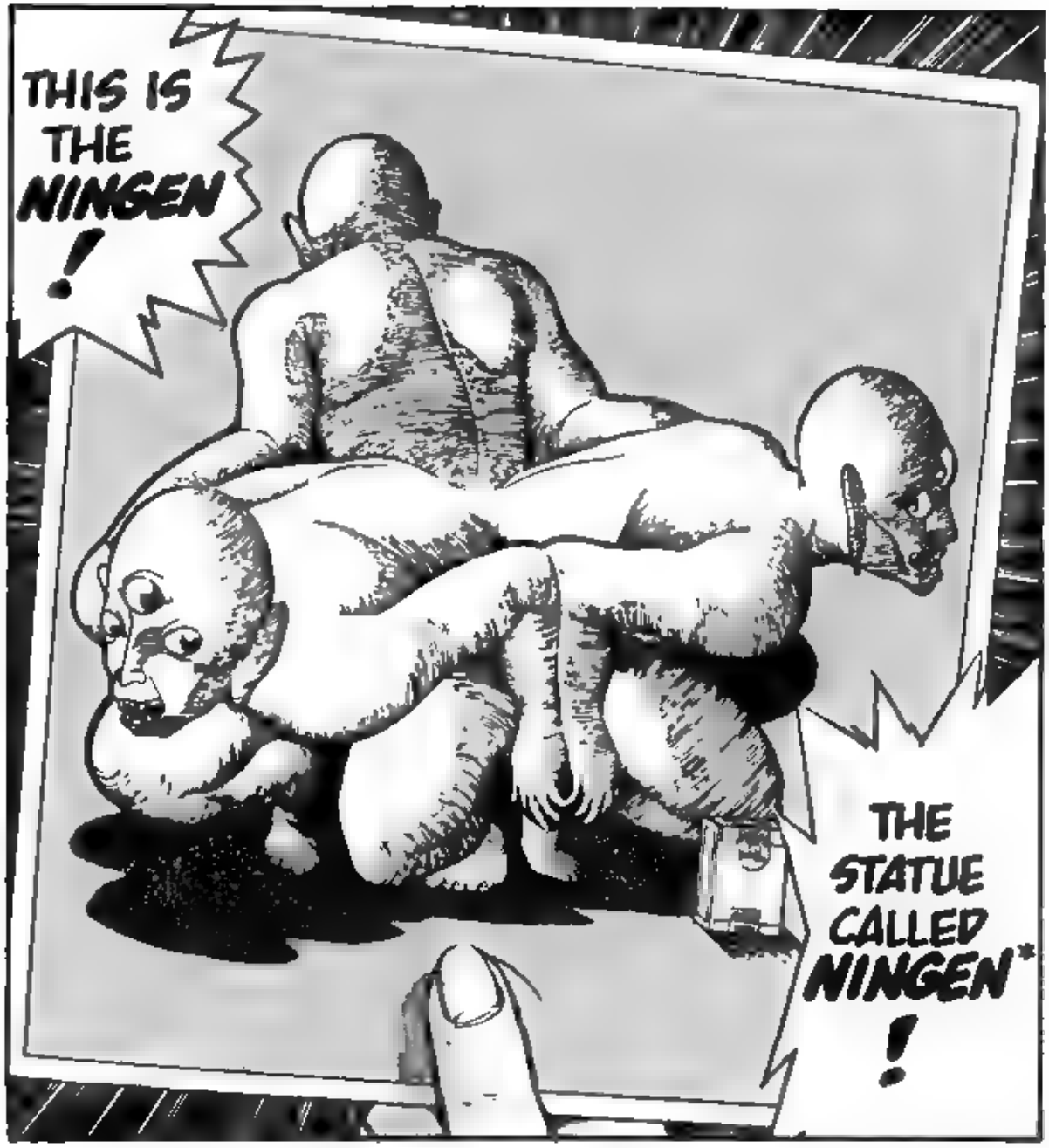

302

NOK NOK

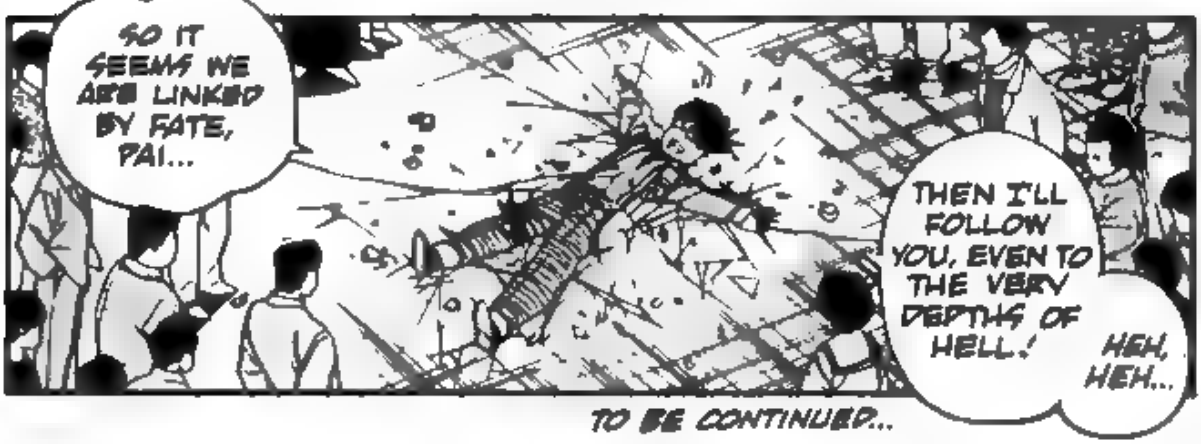
H.. HELLO ?

EXCUSE ME.. ISN'T THIS YAKUMO FUJII'S ROOM? WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WINDOW?
WHERE'S YAKUMO ?
I... I DON'T KNOW. IT WAS LIKE THIS WHEN I WOKE UP... I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED. WHO ARE YOU ?

MY NAME IS LI LING-LING, FROM YOGEKISHA.
I'VE COME HERE TO GIVE YAKUMO SOME INFORMATION ON THE TRANSFORMATION OF A TRICLOPS TO A HUMAN.
LOOKING THROUGH MR AGURI'S SECRET FILES, I CAME ACROSS THIS PHOTO...
TOP SECRET
Sniff Sniff
OH, NO, YOU DON'T! LET'S MAKE A DEAL-- YOU TELL ME THE SECRET OF YAKUMO'S INVULNERABILITY, AND THEN I'LL SHOW YOU THE PHOTO!
LET... LET ME SEE IT !!
OK, OK..
GO AHEAD. I FOUND IT IN A FILE MARKED "HUMANIFICATION." I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT IT IS OR WHAT IT MEANS...
THIS...



*: MEANS "HUMANITY"



TO BE CONTINUED...

Yuzo Friendly

Yuzo Takada was born in Tokyo on March 21, 1963. He made his debut as a professional cartoonist in the November 1983 issue of **Biweekly Young Magazine** with **Shushoku Beginner.** The response from fans was strong and he was given a regular series. This series, **Tokonatsu Bank,** ran from December 1983 through February 1985. This was followed by **Hatamoto-taikutsu Otoko** through August 1986. In November of 1986, he hooked up with the comic writers "Takuya and Mat," illustrating their story **Sportion Kids** until October 1987

Pictured: Yuzo Takada and friend in a moment of quiet contemplation -- or waiting for dinner -- or both. You, the reader, may decide.

His most famous work is **3x3 Eyes** (also known as *Sazan Eyes*). This started running in **Young Magazine Kaizoku-ban** in December 1987. The Kaizoku-ban ("Bootleg") version of Young Magazine is a monthly

Takada was writing and drawing another story **(Mainichi qa Nichiyobi)** for the same time for the publisher Futabasha and couldn't meet a bi-weekly deadline on **3x3 Eyes**. The series is still running today and Takada has released (so far) eight collected volumes through Kodansha Publishing. **3x3 Eyes** has been a big hit, even by the tough standards of Japanese comics publishing. A high-quality animated series is on the way, with the first video-only volume to be released in July of this year

Takada has also written and drawn a couple of series for Takeshobo · **Toritsuki-kun** and **Sinbad.** And, as if that wasn't enough, he has also done short stories "too numerous to mention"

-- Toren Smith
June 24, 1991

Written and illustrated by
YUZO TAKADA

Adapted by
TOSHI YOSHIDA
TOREN SMITH
WAYNE TRUMAN

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BEFORE: In the crowded city of Tokyo, a Japanese student, Yakumo, met a ragged young girl, Pai, who carried a letter for him from her missing father -- a researcher into the occult.

The letter revealed that Pai was actually from the spirit world, one of the last survivors of a race known as the Treiclops, or "Three-Eyed Ones, who supposedly knew the secret of eternal life!

THIS ISSUE: In "Rebirth Chapter Three," the startling saga of Yukumo and Pai's desperate struggle continues.

Chapter Three
Of Five:
"REBIRTH"

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3

INNOVATION™

So Where Are The Innovations, Anyway?

I've gotten a few comments from people who don't regularly follow our publishing endeavors, mainly along the lines of "How can you be *Innovation* if you're mainly doing adaptations of other people's stuff? What's innovative about that?"

I think a lot of it is really *caring* about what we're doing. I'm pleased as punch to be able to resurrect ***LOST IN SPACE*** and turn it into one of the best-selling, best-received, most-awaited series in the direct sales market. The chance to work on it with "Will Robinson" himself, Bill Mumy, makes it even nicer. And I'm thrilled to be able to write our upcoming, all-new ***DARK SHADOWS*** (Hey! A scoop.. you heard it first here!), a show that I remember running home after school every week-day in the late 60s to watch.

Similarly, our art director, George Broderick, Jr. is a big-time fan of ***QUANTUM LEAP***, and that it's one of three projects he specifically asked me to arrange for him. We did, the book looks great and reads just like the TV show plays, and he and we couldn't be happier.

Diana Light, who is now Diana Light Okamoto (but still has the Southern accent, just to confuse people further), is a big fan of Piers Anthony's Incarnations of Immortality series, beginning with ***ON A PALE HORSE***. She edited the first issue with my adaptation, then plunged in to handle the adapting work from there. Now that Mike Okamoto painted the first big issue, set the style, and will continue doing the covers for the entire six-issue run, the book is in the best hands possible.

As far as our freelancers:

Andy Mangels is a big fan of the Freddy Krueger films and the Chucky movies. So when he brought ***CHILD'S PLAY*** (adaptations and new series), ***NIGHTMARES ON ELM STREET*** (new stories featuring the film characters), and ***FREDDY'S DEAD: THE FINAL NIGHTMARE*** (adapting the sixth and final Freddy film) to us to publish, and he showed us his *passion* for the projects, we took them on -- because we knew we would get the best books possible.

Scott Rockwell had two projects that were very personal to him: ***Terry Pratchett's THE COLOUR OF MAGIC*** and ***Gene Wolfe's THE SHADOW OF THE TORTURER***. Both read well. Both are excellently drawn. He, the authors, and their fans couldn't be happier. And ***THE COLOUR OF MAGIC*** is being arranged for reprinting in its native England.

Faye Perozich and Daerick Gross were equally hot to do ***Anne Rice's THE VAMPIRE LESTAT***, which turned out to be the independent publisher success story of the year. This beautiful series will be collected into two different trade paperbacks (one from Ballantine, one from us), plus a hardcover and a limited signed-and-numbered hardcover later this year. Three more Anne Rice projects have resulted. Daerick Gross won the Russ Manning Award for best new talent at San Diego Con this year, and the results all show that *caring* about a project really means something.

We've learned that the care factor makes all the difference. Sure, at first glance we look like the Gold Key of the '90s, with adaptation/tie-in fever, but look at the difference in quality!

The chance to work on childhood heroes, legends, cultural icons, and do our best work ever makes coming to work each day worthwhile. Rather than a bunch of *product* to wrap advertising around, our books offer a lot of care -- nice paper, nicely written, often fully painted, reasonably priced.

That strikes me as pretty Innovative, indeed!

-- David Campiti

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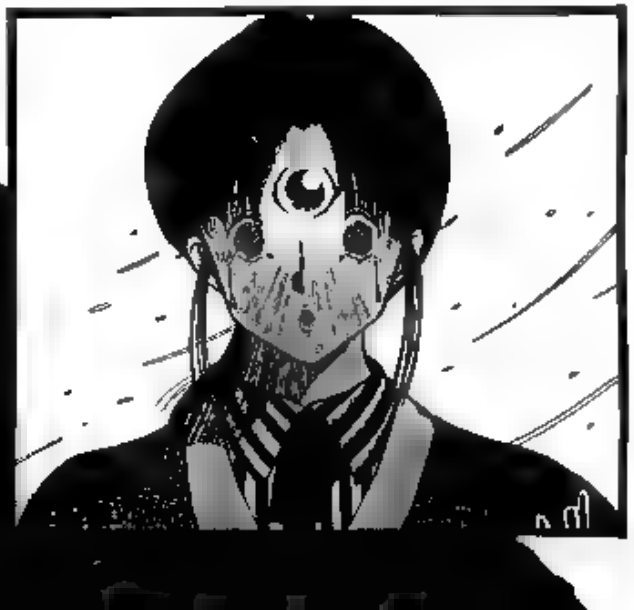


サザン アイズ

3×3 EYES

REBIRTH: Chapter Three

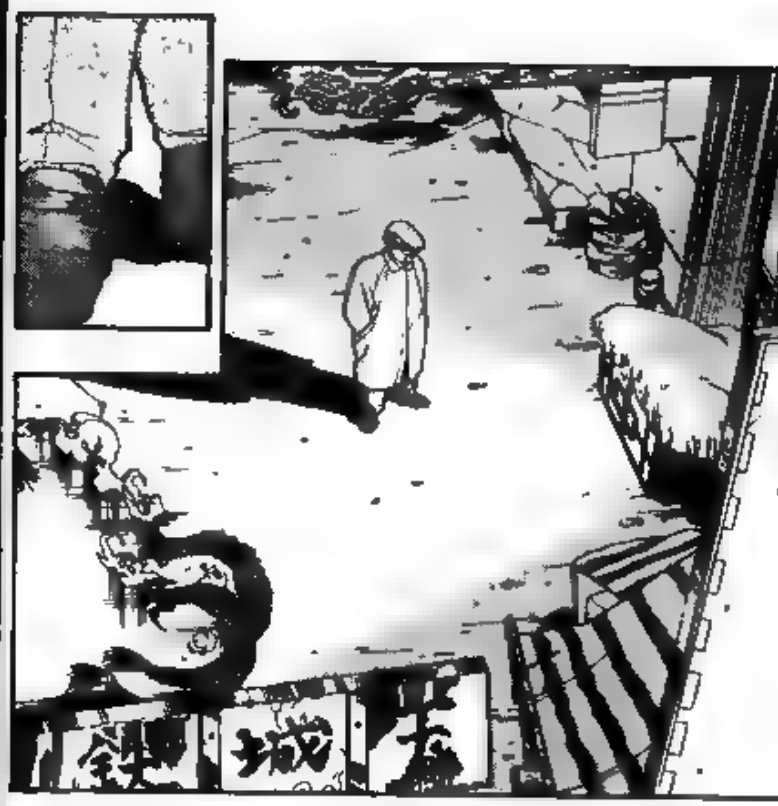
Story and Art By:
YUZO TAKADA

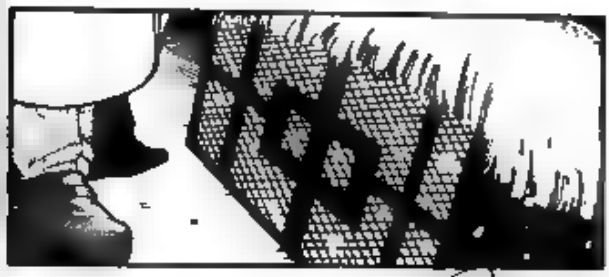
Translated By:
TOREN SMITH and **TOSHIFUMI YOSHIDA**

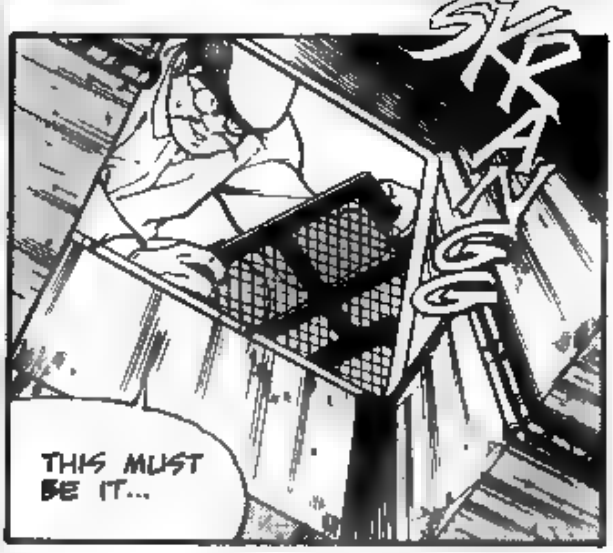
Lettering and Touch-up By:
WAYNE TRUMAN

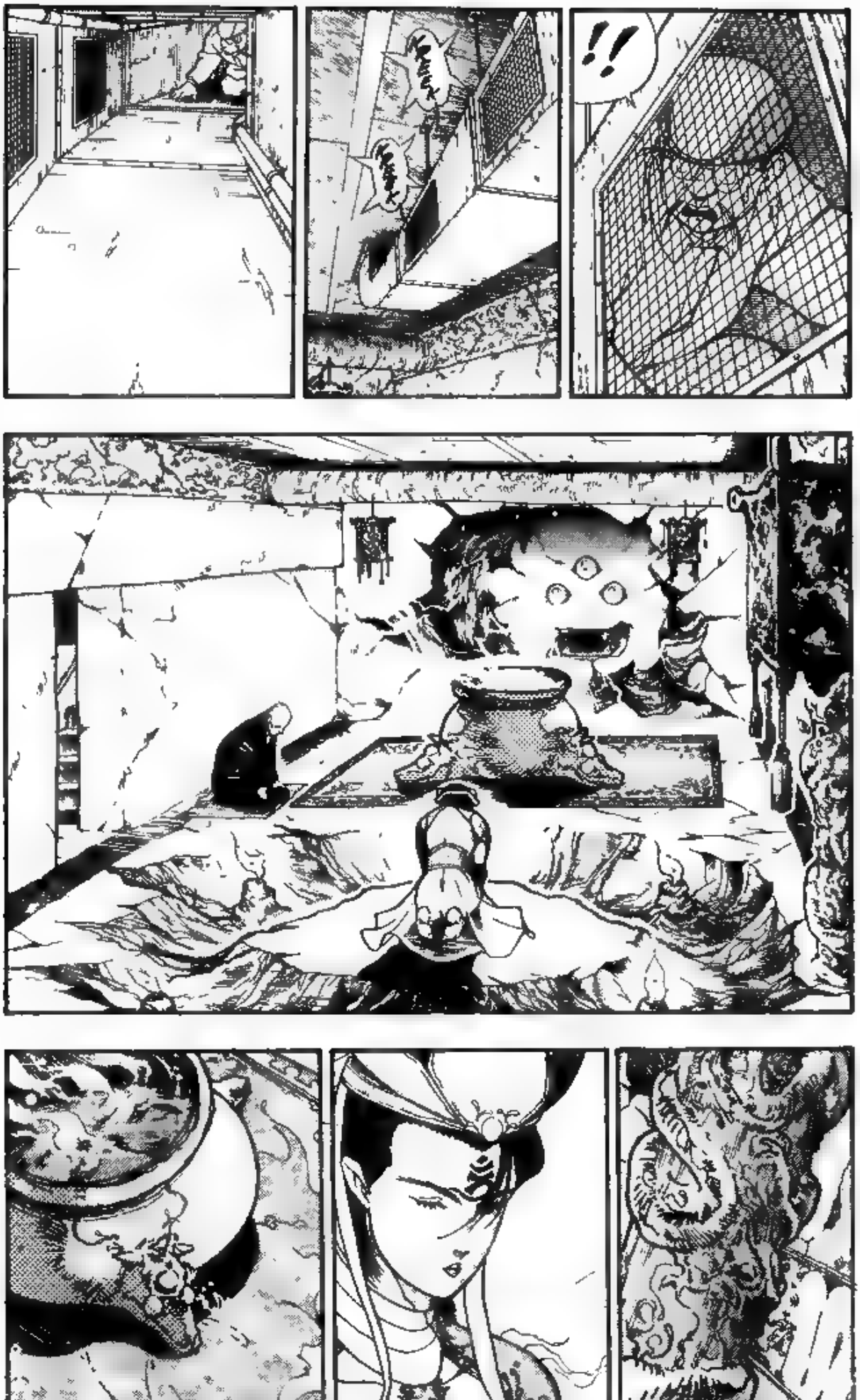
Edited By:
GEORGE BRODERICK, JR.

SPECIAL THANKS TO YUKA ANDO (KODANSHA)

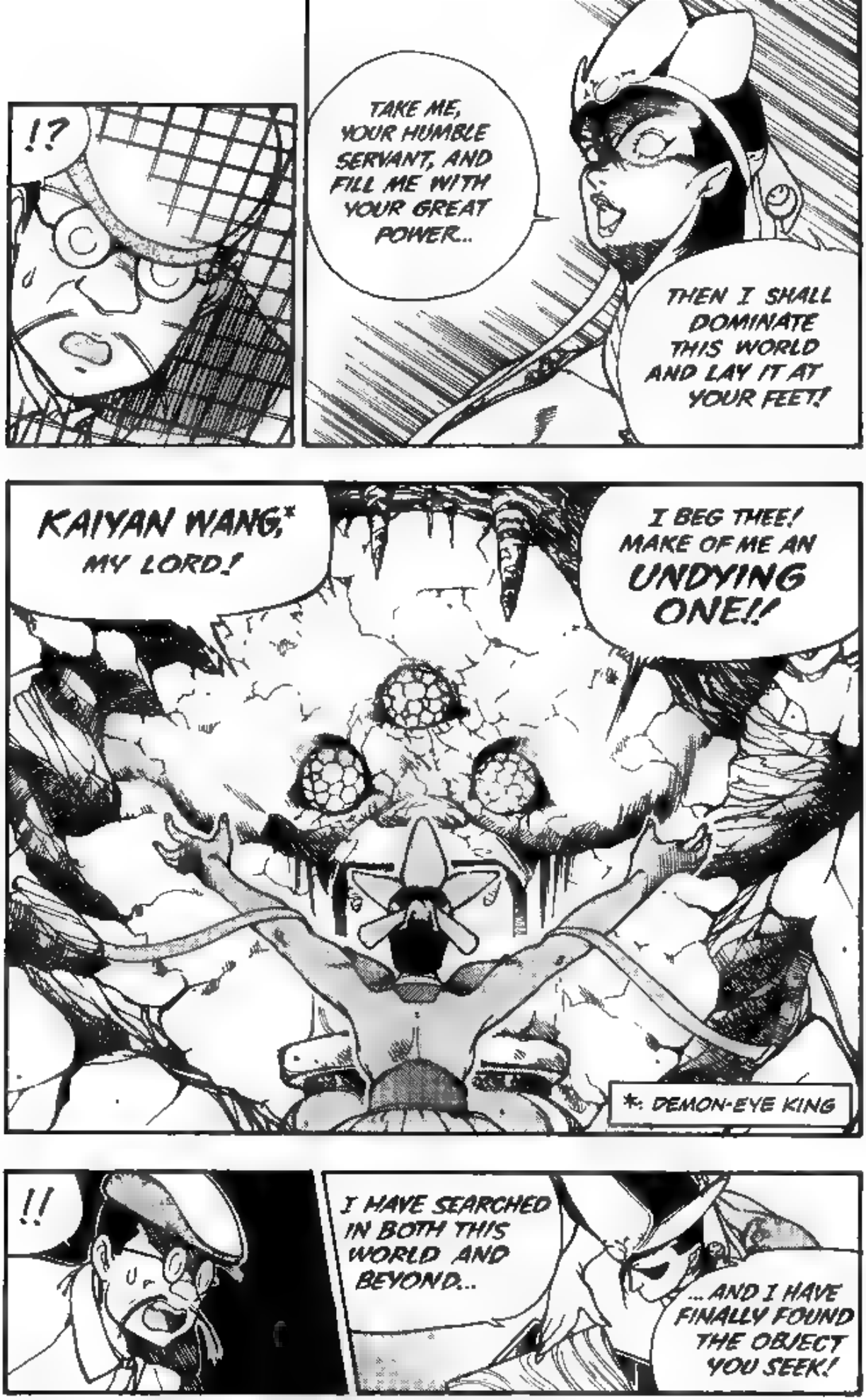




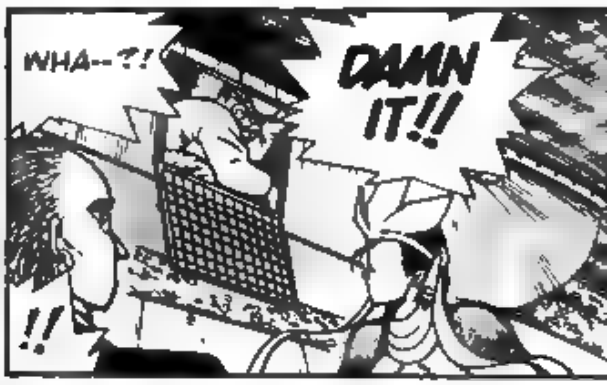

SKRANG
THIS MUST BE IT...



TH-THIS IS INCREDIBLE!
THE RUMORS JUST SAID THAT THERE WAS SOME KIND OF FLAKY CULT OPERATING OUT OF THIS WAREHOUSE... BUT THIS IS FOR REAL!!
FINALLY, A REAL SCOOP FOR OUR MAGAZINE!
!!
UH-OH...
GREAT ONE, OUR FATHER...
GREAT ONE, OUR LORD..
LO, NOW IS THE TIME FOR YOU TO AWAKEN FROM YOUR ANCIENT SLEEP... TO RISE FROM THE ABYSS OF DARKNESS...


!?
TAKE ME, YOUR HUMBLE SERVANT, AND FILL ME WITH YOUR GREAT POWER...
THEN I SHALL DOMINATE THIS WORLD AND LAY IT AT YOUR FEET!
KAIYAN WANG,* MY LORD!
I BEG THEE! MAKE OF ME AN UNDYING ONE!!
*: DEMON-EYE KING
!!
I HAVE SEARCHED IN BOTH THIS WORLD AND BEYOND...
...AND I HAVE FINALLY FOUND THE OBJECT YOU SEEK!

MY GOD!!
THE NINGEN!!
KCHAK


WHA--?!
DAMN IT!!
!!

SEIZE HIM!!

OH, MAN!!
I'M IN TROUBLE NOW!!
HALT!!
!!
TH-THIS IS NO FAKE CULT!!
THEY WORSHIP THE TRICLOPS GOD! AND--

--THEY'RE NOT EVEN HUMAN!!

NO!
PLEASE...

LADY HUANG, STOP!
WE NEED TO FIND OUT HOW MUCH HE KNOWS, OR IF HE'S WORKING WITH ANYONE ELSE!
TOO LATE..
IT IS DONE!

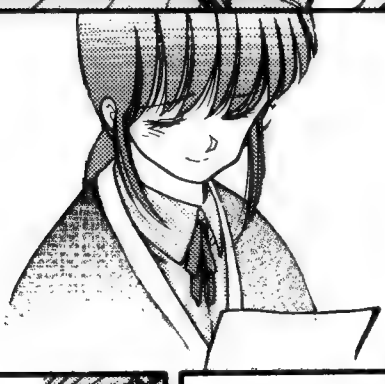
HE SHALL BE AS STONE UNTIL I AM DEAD.
FIND OUT WHO HE IS, CHOU.
I WANT ANYONE ASSOCIATED WITH HIM LURED TO MY MANSION.
YES, MY LADY-- IT SHALL BE DONE.
PRESS IDENTIFICATION
NAME CHIN AGURI
AFFILIATION YOGERISHA (MAGAZINE)
THE ABOVE IS A MEMBER OF THE WORKING PRESS
Cafe
Bar

HELLO? THIS IS YAKUMO FUJII... I'D LIKE TO CANCEL MY TOUR PACKAGE, PLEASE.
妖撃社
YOGEKISHA
NO..I WON'T NEED AN EXTENSION.
NO...
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT.
WILL THERE BE A REFUND?
.....
I SEE. OKAY, THANKS!
KLIK
SINCE I DON'T HAVE A VISA, I CAN ONLY STAY FOR A WEEK... ONLY FOUR DAYS LEFT, TOO.
I HOPE THAT EDITOR GUY, AGURI, GETS BACK BEFORE THEN...
MATH SERIES
CALCULUS II :

YOU READY FOR LUNCH, YAKUMO...?
YOU BET!!
MATH SERIES
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HOMEWORK... I'M SUPPOSED TO FINISH THIS DURING WINTER BREAK.
BREAK'S OVER IN A COUPLE WEEKS AND I'VE BARELY STARTED... HEH, HEH... IT'S NOT GOING VERY WELL, EITHER...
....
ALL HIS ANSWERS ARE WRONG...
WOW! LOOKS DELICIOUS!
CALCULUS II
GEE, YOU GUYS ARE SURE BEING NICE... LETTING US STAY HERE AND ALL... WE REALLY OWE YOU ONE!
HEH HEH
SMIRK
WELL... I HAVE MY REASONS...

PAI! TIME FOR LUNCH!
YOU SEE... HEH, HEH... I'VE FIGURED IT OUT.
....Hmph!!
THE LEAST YOU COULD DO IS LISTEN TO ME!!
YOU'RE A NINJA, RIGHT? YOU WEREN'T EVEN SCRATCHED WHEN THE BUS HIT YOU!
SO, I THINK YOU OUGHT TO BE WORTH A FEATURE ARTICLE, ANYWAY...
HEY, PAI!
I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER...
SHE'S BEEN ACTING STRANGE EVER SINCE SHE SAW THAT STATUE...

THE NINGEN...
"LONG AGO, WHEN I WAS A CHILD, I VAGUELY REMEMBER HAVING SEEN THIS STATUE."



"EVENTS OF THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO, THAT I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO RECALL UNTIL NOW..."

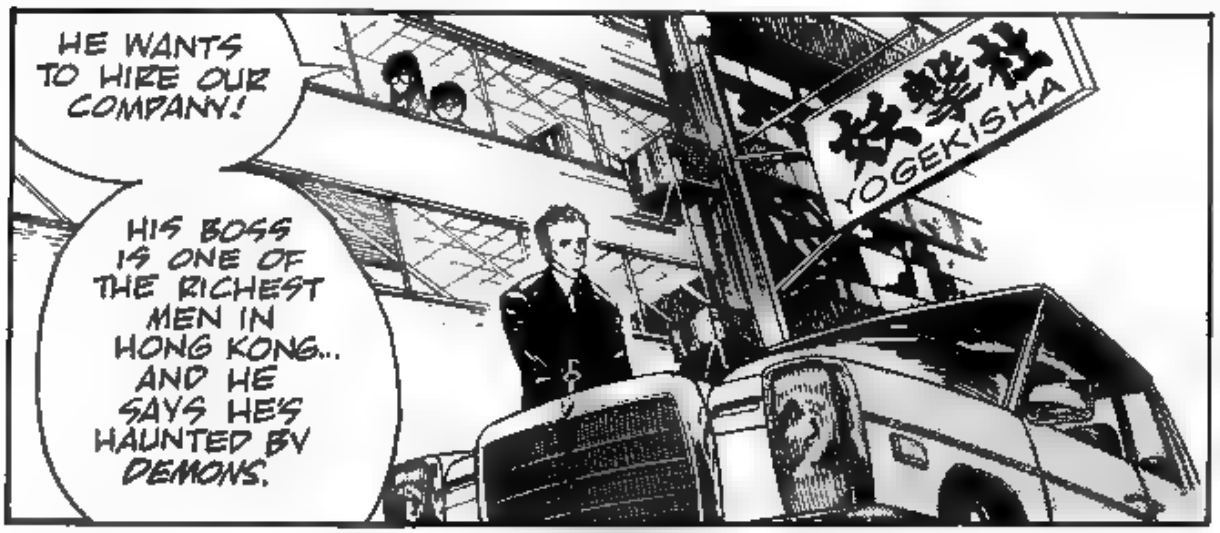
"I CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ELSE...

WHY...?"

WHAT'S THE MATTER, PAI?
YOU SEEM A LITTLE DOWN...
AW, YAKUMO...!
PAI ALWAYS IN A GOOD MOOD!
SOMETHING IS WRONG-- THAT'S NOT HER NORMAL SMILE!
GRRGGLE
HUNGRY, HUH? LOOK AT THE GREAT LUNCH LING LING GOT US!!
WOW!

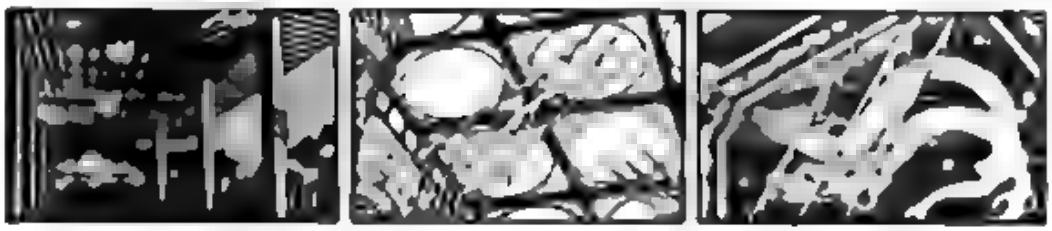
LOOKS DELICIOUS!
PAI IS HUNGRY! ESPECIALLY FOR HUMAN FOOD!
SAY...
SINCE LING LING GOT FOOD FOR US, WE SHOULD SHARE WITH HER, YES?
BUT...
IT WILL TASTE BETTER IF WE SHARE!
WOMEN... UH, I MEAN MONSTERS... WHO CAN UNDERSTAND THEM...?
YOGEKISHA
?

PLEASE...I BEG OF YOU!
.....
VERY WELL, THEN--WE ACCEPT.
PLEASE WAIT IN YOUR CAR WHILE WE PREPARE.



*: ABOUT $6,000 U.S.

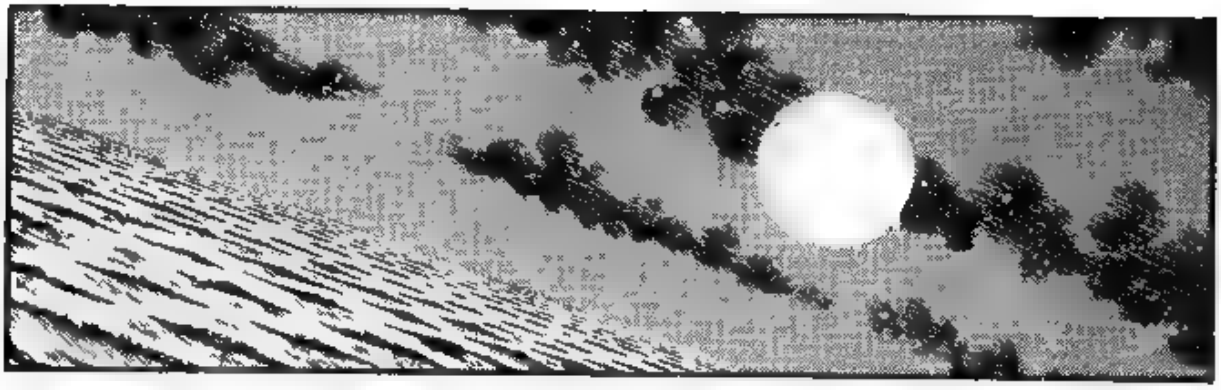
!!
WAIT A SEC... IF THOSE TWO ARE NINJAS OR SOMETHING, THEY COULD COME IN HANDY.
HMM...
WE'LL STAY HERE..
SAY...WHY DON'T YOU TWO COME ALONG AS MY ASSISTANTS? THEY'VE GOT BUCKETS OF MONEY, SO AT LEAST THE FOOD OUGHT TO BE PRETTY GOOD..
I'M GOING!! PAI'S GOING!!
.....
Nikon
MONEY EXC



WELCOME TO MY HOME, EVERYONE-- MY APOLOGIES FOR THE DELAY.
I AM THE MASTER OF THIS HOUSE, HUANG SONG LI.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU-- I AM LI LING LING OF YOGEKISHA... THESE ARE MY ASSISTANTS.
LET'S GET RIGHT TO THE POINT-- WHAT EXACTLY HAS HAPPENED HERE?
YAY!
SHH! YOU GOTTA TRANSLATE FOR ME!
IT WAS ABOUT ONE MONTH AGO...

"...WHILE IT POURED RAIN..."
SKRK
"I WAS AWAKENED BY THE SOUND OF SOMETHING BEING TORN APART..."
?!
SKRAK
"THEN I NOTICED THAT I WAS DRESSED IN SOME OUTRAGEOUS COSTUME...
!!
"...AND I HAD NO IDEA HOW I CAME TO BE WEARING IT!"
DARLING! WHERE ARE YOU?!
"I THOUGHT IT WAS ONE OF MY HUSBAND'S JOKES, SO I HEADED FOR HIS STUDY..."
REALLY, DEAR, THIS IS NOT—
D-DEAR...

DARLING!!
Sniff...
ULP!
POOR GUY..
SO I'VE LOST MY HUSBAND...AND THOSE THREE-CLAW MARKS ARE MADE EVERY NIGHT HERE IN THE MANSION...
I AWAKEN WEARING STRANGE CLOTHING...
PLEASE...YOU MUST HELP ME! IF THIS GOES ON, I FEAR I WILL GO INSANE...



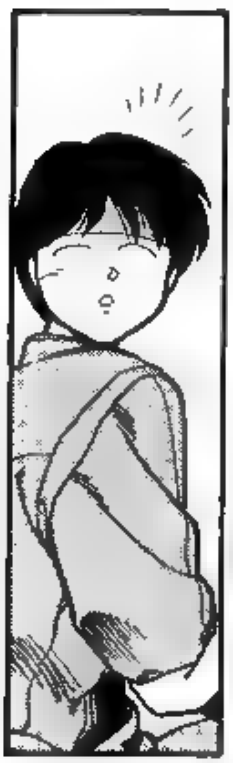
I FEEL SORRY FOR HER, BUT...

...WE'VE GOT OUR OWN PROBLEMS TO THINK ABOUT!

IF AGURI CALLS WHILE WE'RE HERE, WE'LL MISS IT. AND I'VE GOT SCHOOL AND MY JOB IN JAPAN...

MATH

RIGHT, PAI...?



LOOKS LIKE SHE'S DEPRESSED AGAIN... THINKING ABOUT THAT STATUE, I'LL BET...

HEY, HEY... CHEER UP!
IF IT'S THAT NINGEN STATUE YOU'RE SO WORRIED ABOUT, I'LL GET IT FOR YOU, NEVER FEAR!
HEH, HEH!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME... I--
SKRAK!
EEK!
PAI! ARE YOU OKAY?!
YES... THIS WOOD JUST ROTTEN...

I SORRY, YAKUMO...
IT JUST THAT WHEN I SEE THAT PICTURE, THE PAST COME BACK TO ME...
I WAS WITH MY PEOPLE THEN...
AND... AND NOW... I ALL ALONE...
-sniff-

SPAK
SPAK
SPAK
PAI...
Y-YOU'RE NOT ALONE...
I... I...
I...
I...
I...
?
I'LL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU!
?!
SKRAAAA
N...
NO!!

SKRAKKK
THE DEMON !!
MY FOOT !
!!
YAKUMO, RUN!!
NO !!
DON'T BE A FOOL!! I CAN'T LEAVE YOU!
YOU AND I ARE ONE!!

SPRAK!

WHEW...
TOO CLOSE FOR MY TASTE...
TH-THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE...?
....
SORRY I WORRY YOU, YAKUMO...
I'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGE, IT TRUE...
BUT PAI'S GOT YOU NOW... AND SO I VERY VERY HAPPY...
HEH..

THAT'S THE SMILE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR!!
HEH, HEH...!
HA HA HA!
AIEEE
!!
WHO--?!
LING LING?!
TO BE CONTINUED!

INNOVATION

サザン アイズ
3×3 EYES™

4

$2.25 U.S./$2.[illegible]

Not intended for children

STUDIO PROTEUS

INNOVATION™

When Our Ship's Come In...

Okay, okay, people – you can stop yelling! It's all finally happened.

* *LOST IN SPACE #1* has shipped, with issues #2 and #3 and #4 and #5 each following three weeks apart from one another, after which #6 will assume a monthly schedule;

* *QUANTUM LEAP #1* has shipped, and #2 and #3 are both well in the works,

* *Alfred Hitchcock's PSYCHO #1* has shipped, and it looks nothing short of fabulous;

* *Anne Rice's THE MASTER OF RAMPLING GATE* trade paperback has shipped, and Colleen Doran art fans should love it;

* ...and the list goes on.

The legion of Innovation fans is growing, but it's been dampened somewhat by the delays we've been experiencing.

Part of the delay is due to printer schedules; most of is it because we expect our artists to behave like adults and turn in work when they contractually agree to turn it in.

And, quite often, they simply don't do it. So the book ships late.

Such crucial film tie-ins as *CHILD'S PLAY 3 #1* and *FREDDY'S DEAD: THE FINAL NIGHTMARE #1* shipped late because artists decided to ignored the schedule they agreed to.

It's a slap in the face -- not only to the other people working on the books, but to the readers, the retailers, and the licensing companies that expect their tie-ins to come out on time.

As I type this, I'm about an hour away from leaving the office to see Universal's *Child's Play 3* movie, our comic is not yet at the printer, and the movie premieres in two days. I'll be seeing *Freddy's Dead: The Final Nightmare*, and two of the people on the first issue held up the schedule unconscionably; its many thanks to the dependability of creators like scripter Andy Mangels that the books will come out at all!

It's a shame, then, that finished and on-time books like *3 X 3 EYES* aren't getting the attention -- or sales – that they deserve.

It's manga at its best.

It's hot stuff in Japan.

It's coming your way on time.

And next issue, which concludes the first story, may be the last.

It's up to you, your fellow manga fans, and the Retailers.

When we see the orders on *3 X 3 EYES #5*, Yuzo Takada, we, Kodansha, and Studio Proteus will all know whether you enjoyed this five-part "Rebirth" mini-series enough for us to release a second series.

And much like the tens of thousands of people who waited for *LOST IN SPACE #1* finally to ship, we await those tell-all *3 X 3 EYES #5* orders with baited breath.

Thanks...and happy reading.

-- David Campiti
Off To See Chucky
August 28, 1991

3 X 3 EYES™, Vol. 1, No. 4, December, 1991 issue. *Part 4 of 5*
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3×3EYES

Story and Art By
YUZO TAKADA

HOUSE OF DEMONS, PART TWO

Translated By
TOREN SMITH and TOSHIFUMI YOSHIDA

Lettering and Touch up By
WAYNE TRUMAN

Edited By
GEORGE BRODERICK, JR.

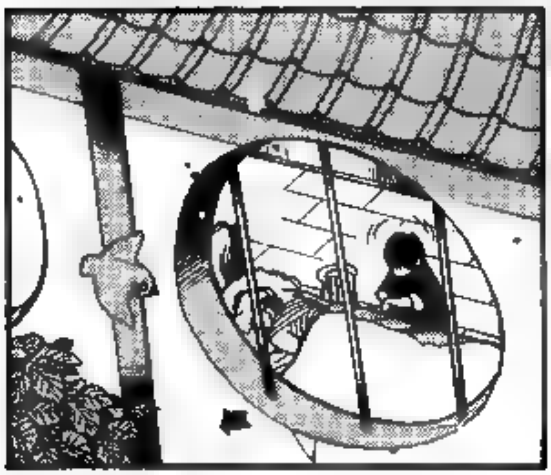
SPECIAL THANKS TO YUKA ANDO (KODANSHA)

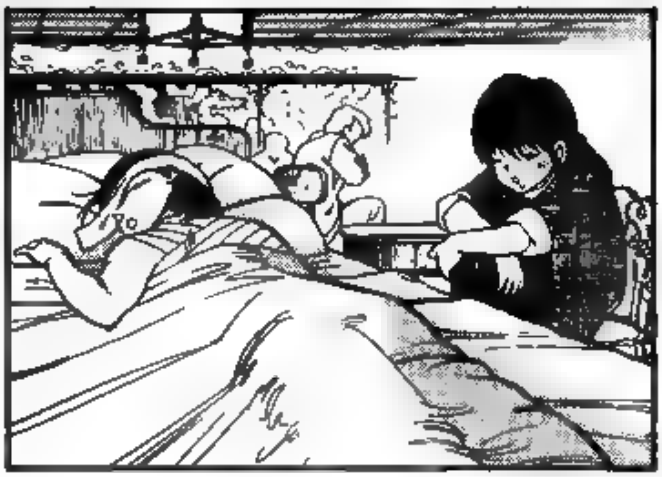
ZOOOOO!!!
LING LING!

WHERE...?
LING LING!!
WHERE ARE YOU?!
ARE YOU--
AH...
AH... AH... ...
YAKUMO! OVER THERE!
LING LING!

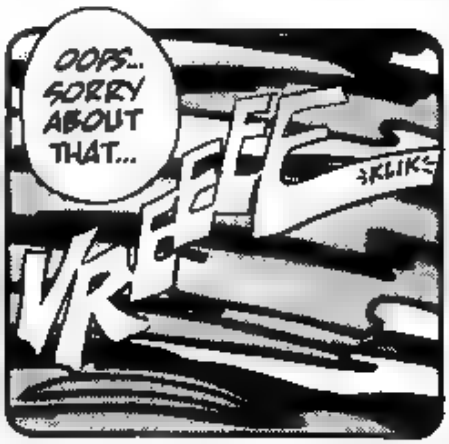
MS. HUANG!
I F-FOUND HER LIKE THIS WHILE I WAS SEARCHING THE M-M-MANSION...
IT'S OKAY, YAKUMO... SHE STILL ALIVE! HELP ME!
GOT IT!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THE MASTER'S STUDY?!

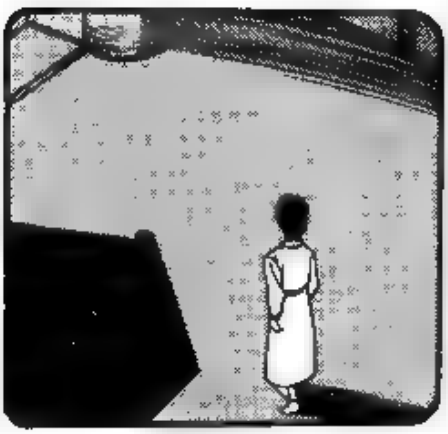
MADAME!
A HIDDEN SAFE...?
THAT'S STRANGE
WHATEVER IT WAS, IT SURE WANTED INTO THAT SAFE...





WHAT THIS ?


OOPS... SORRY ABOUT THAT...
KLIK
VR



STOP

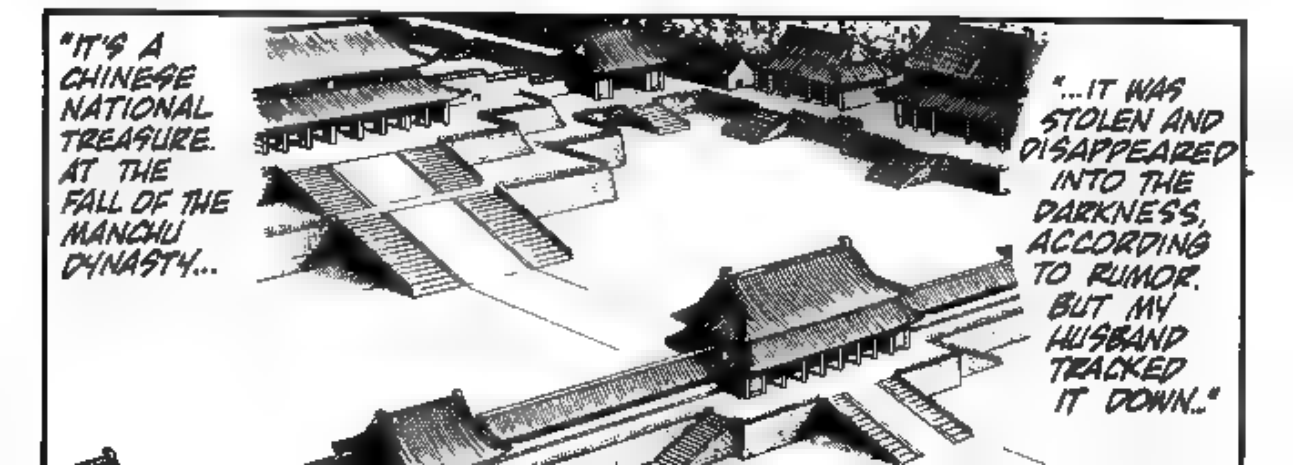
AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS IS FOOTAGE TAKEN BY THE HIDDEN CAMERA I SET UP IN THE CEILING. AFTERWARDS, THE "CLAW" CONTINUES TO SCRATCH AT THE SAFE.
....
.....
MR. CHOU, JUST WHAT IS INSIDE OF THAT SAFE...?

COULD IT BE THAT THE "CLAW" IS AFTER WHATEVER IT IS INSIDE?
.....

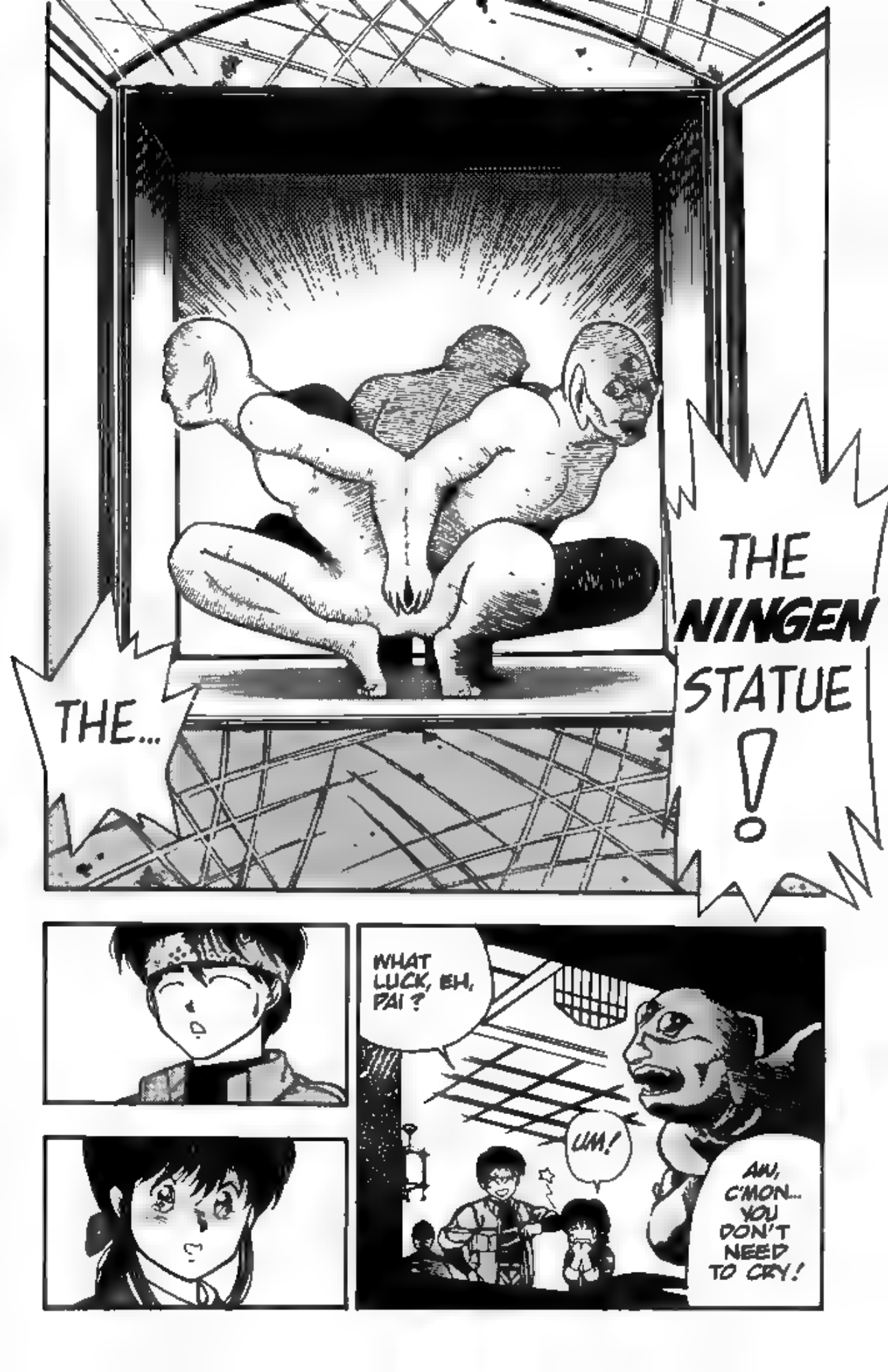
TH...THAT MAY BE SO.

(YOU SHOULD BE IN BED!)

MADAME!
MS. HUANG!
PLEASE, EVERYONE... STEP INTO THE STUDY.
ARE YOU OK...?
I WON'T BE A...
THE SAFE CONTAINS A KATAMI THAT USED TO BELONG TO MY HUSBAND.
OH, EXCUSE ME...A "KATAMI" IS A KEEPSAKE... A HEIRLOOM.


"IT'S A CHINESE NATIONAL TREASURE. AT THE FALL OF THE MANCHU DYNASTY...
"...IT WAS STOLEN AND DISAPPEARED INTO THE DARKNESS, ACCORDING TO RUMOR. BUT MY HUSBAND TRACKED IT DOWN..."

SO YOU SEE, IT IS A STOLEN ARTIFACT ACQUIRED THROUGH THE BLACK MARKET.
FOR THAT REASON, I WAS RELUCTANT TO SHOW IT TO STRANGERS.
KLIK KLIK
GEE.. THIS IS KINDA EXCITING..
I WONDER WHAT IT IS?
PLEASE, TAKE A LOOK.
P-PAI... IS IT...?
UH-HUH...

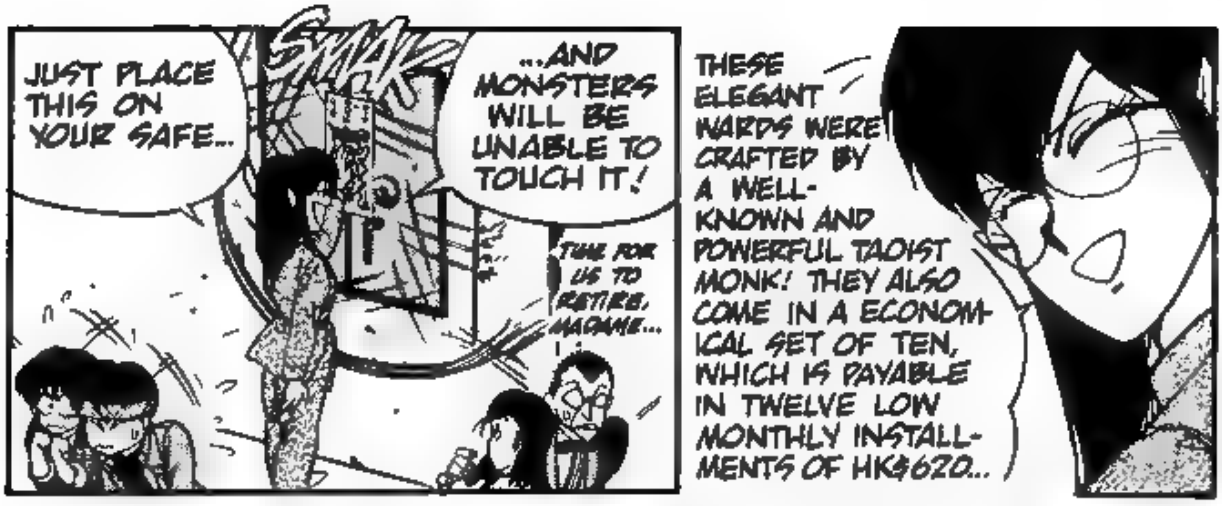

THE...
THE NINGEN STATUE!
WHAT LUCK, EH, PAI?
UM!
AW, C'MON... YOU DON'T NEED TO CRY!

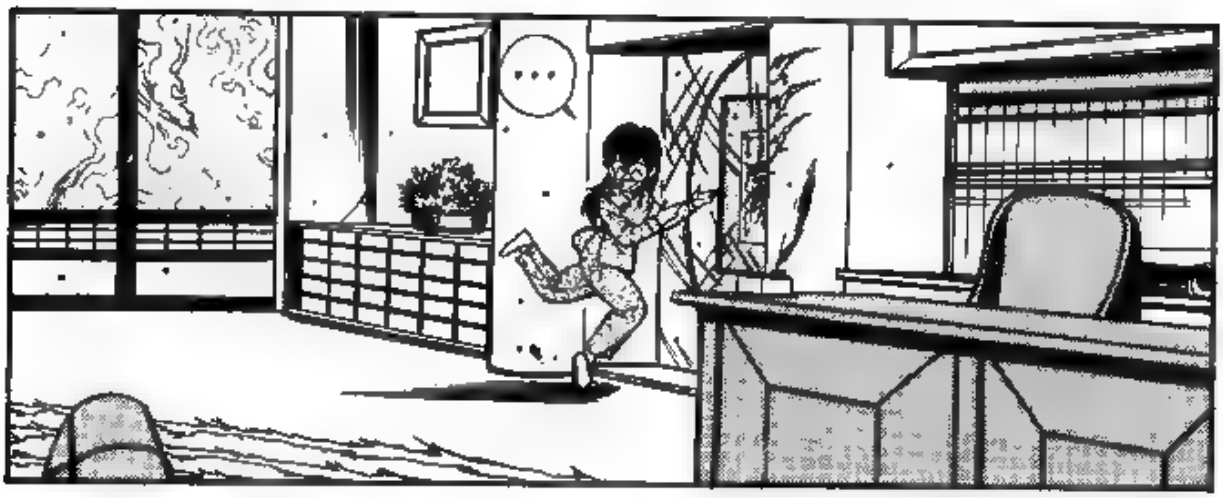
BUT..
BUT...
BUT...
BUT...
BUT...
Sniff
Sniff
Sniff
BUT...
PAI...
Sniff
HOW!
ER... ANYWAY, MS. HUANG...
I'M SORRY... FORGET IT...
YUCK...
WE REFER TO THIS STATUE AS THE "NINGEN", MEANING "HUMANITY," BUT WE DON'T KNOW MUCH ELSE ABOUT IT.
THE ONLY ONE WHO REALLY KNOWS IS OUR EDITOR, AGURI, AND HE'S AWAY ON A BUSINESS TRIP. HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN BACK BY NOW, BUT WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIM.
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYONE ELSE WHO CAN TELL US WHY THAT "DEMON" IS AFTER THE STATUE.

ARE YOU SURE...?
MS. HUANG, DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT IT?
NO, NOTHING.
CAN...
CAN I TOUCH IT...?
YEAH! YOU MIND IF WE TAKE A CLOSER LOOK?
!!
SORRY—IT WAS THE MASTER'S WISH TO LET NO ONE WE DO NOT TRUST COMPLETELY TO TOUCH THE STATUE.
MY APOLOGIES..
BAM
KLIK

HEY !!
REALLY, CHOU, I SEE NO HARM IN LETTING THEM EXAMINE THE STATUE.
NO, MADAME-- WE MUSTN'T.
WHAT WOULD WE HAVE TO DO IN ORDER FOR YOU TO TRUST US?
OH, I DON'T KNOW... PERHAPS IF YOU DEFEATED THE THREE-CLAWED DEMON, WE COULD LOAN THE STATUE TO YOU.

WE'LL DO IT!
I'M GONNA REGRET THIS...
EE...OF COURSE, WE WON'T DO IT FOR NOTHING! IT'LL COST YOU... AH...HK$3000 A DAY, PLUS EXPENSES.
AND, IF YOU ACT NOW...
WHOOSH
...WE'LL INCLUDE THESE WARDS THAT KEEP AWAY MONSTERS FOR THE LOW, LOW PRICE OF ONLY HK$750 EACH!
URK!
GULP!


JUST PLACE THIS ON YOUR SAFE...
SWAK
...AND MONSTERS WILL BE UNABLE TO TOUCH IT!
TIME FOR US TO RETIRE, MADAME...
THESE ELEGANT WARDS WERE CRAFTED BY A WELL-KNOWN AND POWERFUL TAOIST MONK! THEY ALSO COME IN A ECONOMICAL SET OF TEN, WHICH IS PAYABLE IN TWELVE LOW MONTHLY INSTALLMENTS OF HK$620...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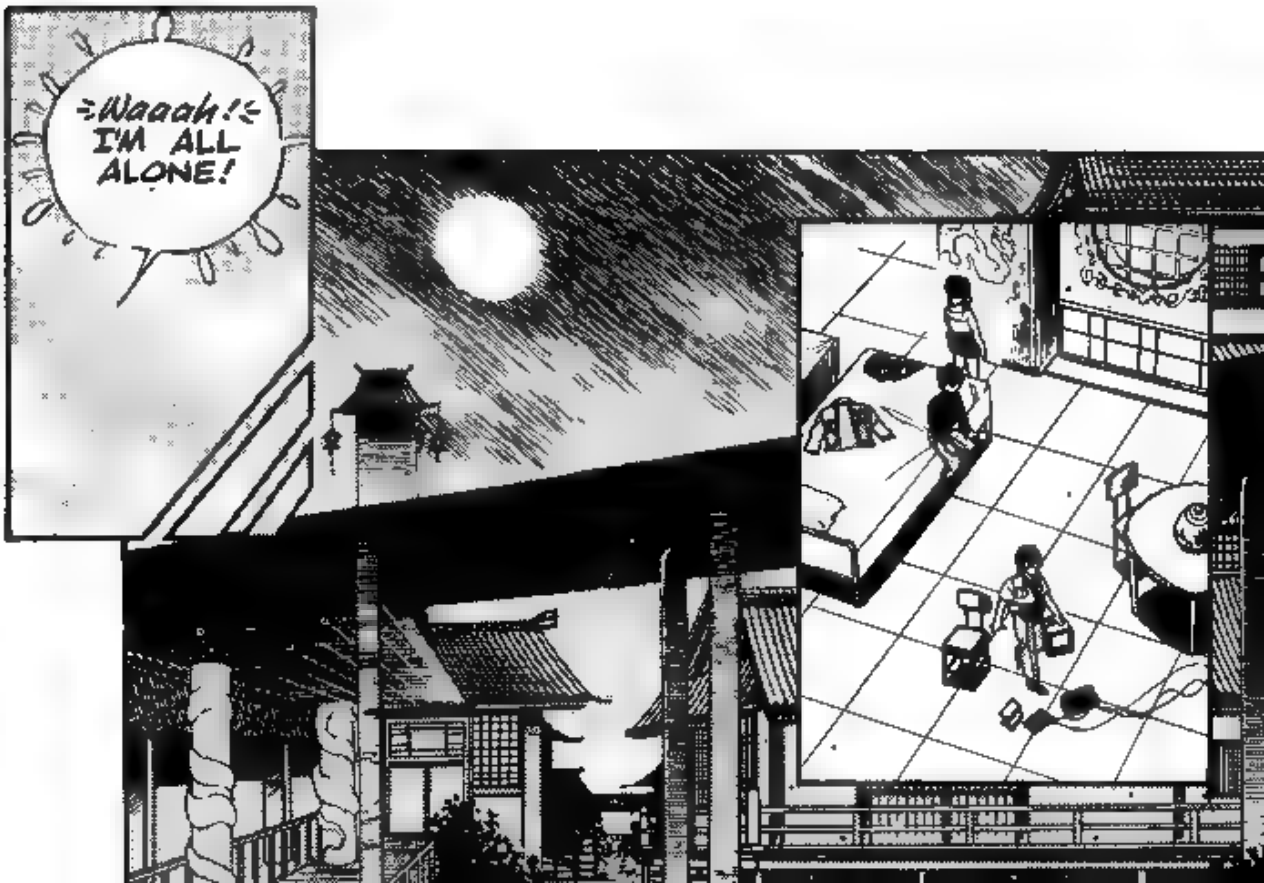

=Waaah!= I'M ALL ALONE!

GOOD LUCK, YAKUMO! ♡
THANKS!
OH, WELL... MY FAULT FOR ACTING SO TOUGH.
ANYWAY, WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW, LING LING?
LET'S SEE...
DON'T MENTION IT. YOU CAN DO ANYTHING WHEN YOU'RE NOT AFRAID TO DIE...
I JUST HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT MAKO...
CAMERA AND CAMCORDER...
TRACER BUGS AND TRACKING RECEIVER..
NIGHT-SIGHT GOGGLES... SURVIVAL KNIFE...
AND VARIOUS OTHER GOODIES... WE'RE ALL SET!
OKAY... YAKUMO, PAI-- LET'S GO!

SHUT
HHEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
DON'T WORRY. I'VE ALREADY SHUT OFF THE ALARM SYSTEM.
THIS WAY WE CAN CATCH THE CULPRIT.
!?
THE WAY I SEE IT, THIS CASE IS NOTHING MORE THAN SIMPLE ROBBERY MADE TO LOOK LIKE A POLTERGEIST HAUNTING.
OH, YEAH? WHAT ABOUT THOSE CLAW MARKS?
NOH! THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS MONSTERS THOSE 'CLAW MARKS' ARE OBVIOUSLY FAKED!

SEEMS PRETTY HYPOCRITICAL TO CARRY WARDS WHEN YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN MONSTERS.
PAI, WHEN YOU BECOME HUMAN, YOU TOO WILL UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF "BUSINESS ETHICS."
KU KU KU KU
WHAT DO YOU GUYS SAY WE JUST TAKE THIS?
THEN THE CULPRIT WILL HAVE TO COME AFTER US.

MS. HUANG ISN'T GOING TO LIKE IT...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, PAI ?
I CAN FEEL IT... THE ONE FROM YESTERDAY IS NEAR...

"THE ONE FROM YESTER-DAY"... ?

LING LING. LOOK OUT! BEHIND YOU!!
SKRAAK
!!

WHUD
IT'S HERE!
LING LING!
DAMN IT!
WAIT! WHO ARE YOU?! YOU ARE NOT THE ONE FROM YESTERDAY!
?!

HUH!? THAT'S NOT THE CLAW DEMON...?
!!
HEY!
HOLD IT, YOU!!
!!
YAKUMO! BEHIND YOU...IN FLOOR!
SPAK SPAK SPAK
SKRAAK

YOU--
YOU COWARDLY BASTARD!!
ARE YOU AFRAID TO ATTACK FROM THE FRONT?!
SPRAK

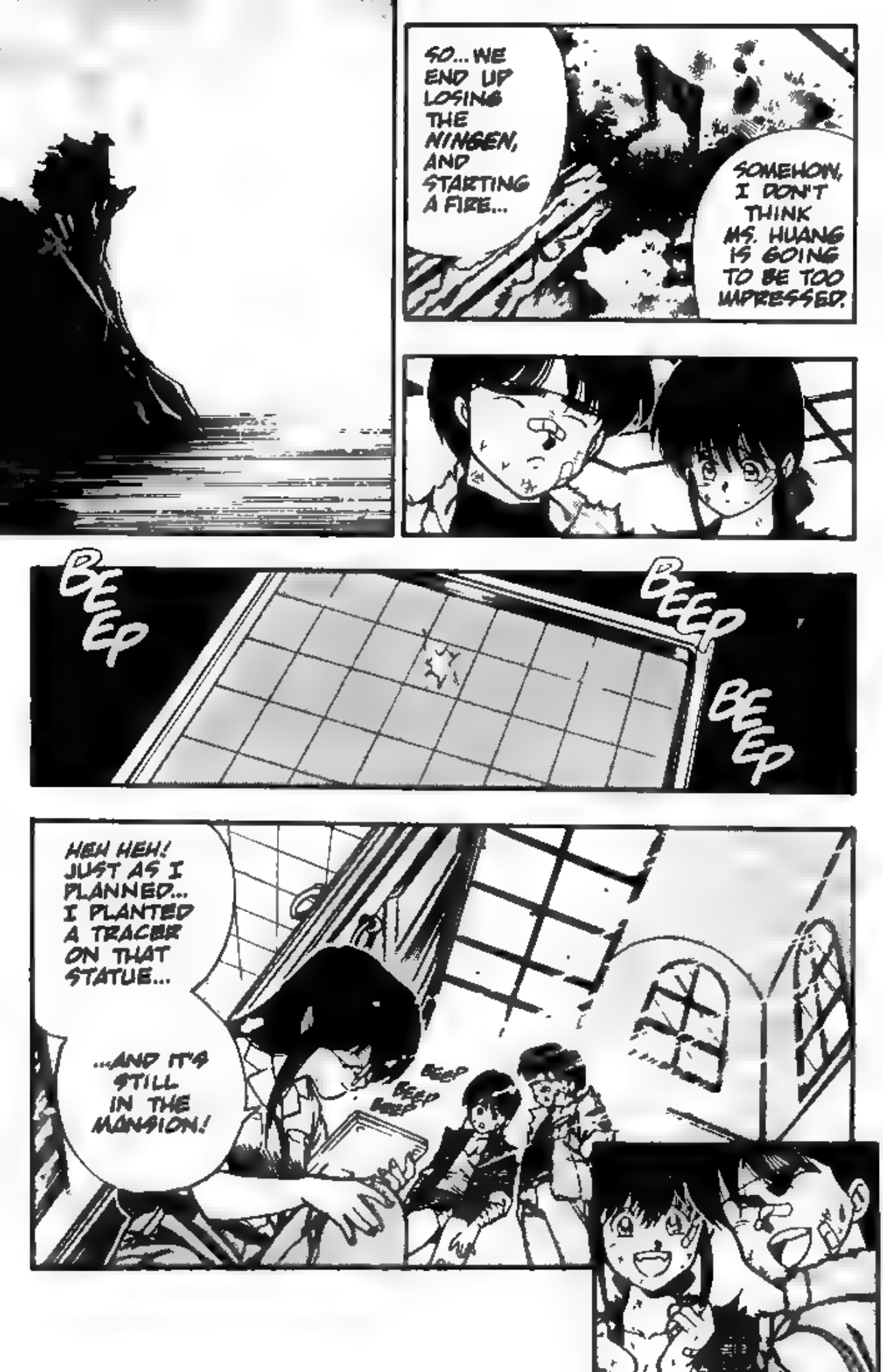
HYAA!
YAKUMO!
WHOO

KKOOM
THUD
USHH
SKRAK

PAI!
BAM
AAAH
AIEEE!
IT--IT HURTS!!
SKRAAK
SKRAAK
停!!
(STOP!)

再杀死生物
我就必和
你不依!!
〈I WON'T LET YOU KILL ANY MORE PEOPLE!〉

FLASH
WHA...
WHAT HAPPENED...?
WHY DID IT JUST RUN AWAY?


SO... WE END UP LOSING THE NINGEN, AND STARTING A FIRE...
SOMEHOW, I DON'T THINK MS. HUANG IS GOING TO BE TOO IMPRESSED.
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
HEH HEH! JUST AS I PLANNED... I PLANTED A TRACER ON THAT STATUE...
...AND IT'S STILL IN THE MANSION!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP

KILL THEM!
NOW THAT WE'RE CERTAIN NO ONE ELSE KNOWS ABOUT THE STATUE...
...WE HAVE NO FURTHER USE FOR THEM.
NONE OF THEM...
...MUST LEAVE HERE ALIVE!
TO BE CONCLUDED..

INNOVATION

サザン アィズ
3×3 EYES™

$2.95 U.S./$2.95 Can.

5

Not intended for children

"REBIRTH/HOUSE OF DEMONS"
PART FIVE OF FIVE

STUDIO PROTEUS

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We're Standing *VIGIL* With "Fall From Grace"!

As 1991 and our *3X3 EYES* five-issue mini-series comes to a close, readers have been asking if we plan to abandon "original projects" or black-and-white titles.

Certainly not!

Beginning in March, 1992, we'll be releasing another B&W title of some note – ***VIGIL: FALL FROM GRACE***, a 52-page two-issue monthly mini-series.

The *VIGIL* story offers readers the horror-oriented slant that seems to be particularly popular right now. It deals with the subject of vampires, but in a much more action-oriented direction than such projects as Anne Rice's "Vampire Chronicles" books or even *DARK SHADOWS*. I especially like how the first issue raced by without the word "vampire" even mentioned.

VIGIL is written by Phoenix, Arizona native Arvin Loudermilk, and illustrated by Phoenix graphic designer Mike Iverson. It is their first published comic-book work for a major comics company.

"Mike Iverson illustrates in an interesting style, approaching the art from a designer's perspective," says art director (and *3X3 EYES* editor) George Broderick, Jr. "He's creating all his pages as nine-panel grids and is being extremely creative within that specific design, with cross-over imagery and cinematic continuity. He also uses real, high-contrast photo background images. The result is appropriately creepy for a gritty, big-city book like this."

The story: Ex-cop Grace Kimble is the self-appointed conscience of vampires. She believes her own vampiric condition is a disease, not some abstract, supernatural curse. Any of the undead who disagree with Grace's moral code against killing innocent humans find themselves to be unsuspecting targets of her wrath.

Her latest "prey" is Rupert Michaels, popular late-night talk show host and bloodthirsty casanova. Grace isn't expecting to find a vast network of vampires defending Rupert – and she certainly isn't expecting to be confronted by her own animalistic urges.

"We don't ever want to fall into the trap of only doing licenses, so we've always had a list of original projects to do, from *3X3 EYES* and *HERO ALLIANCE* to *CYBERPUNK* and *TIMEDRIFTER*," explains operations manager Diana Light.

"Most of our titles have been in full color, with a few in black-and-white. Quite often, however, black-and-white comics sell well for the first issue, then drop off substantially in the pre-orders. That means Retailers sometimes kill the book before fans ever get to see it on the stands. We're adjusting for that by making the mini-series two big 52-page monthly books with no ads, rather than four separate regular-sized issues."

Not intended for children, *VIGIL: FALL FROM GRACE #1* premieres in comics shops in March, with a $2.75 cover price. I hope you'll be here with us, to enjoy it!

-- David Campiti
December, 1991

"3 X 3 EYES™", Vol. 1, No. 5, February, 1992 issue. *Part 5 of 5*
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Story and Art By:
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GEORGE BRODERICK, JR.
SPECIAL THANKS TO
YUKA ANDO (KODANSHA)

HOUSE OF DEMONS
PART THREE

YOU'RE LATE !!
JUST WHAT WERE YOU TWO DOING ?!
huhh
huhh
SORRY !
WE WERE FILLING THE FOUNTAIN IN THE GARDEN WITH GASOLINE.
THE CLAW MONSTER SEEMS TO HATE LIGHT, SO WE'RE GOING TO DRIVE IT INTO THE FOUNTAIN WITH THE FLASHLIGHT AND TORCH IT !
BEEP
BEEP

....
YOU TWIT! I TOLD YOU THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS MONSTERS!
THE STATUE COULD BE TAKEN OUT OF THE MANOR WHILE YOU'RE GOOFING AROUND!
yeek!
PRETTY CLEVER, HUH? AFTER THIS, FINALS SHOULD BE A BREEZE!
PLEASE TRY NOT TO SCREW THIS UP, OKAY?
I NEED THE MONEY..
SHE'S SURE GOT A ONE-TRACK MIND, HUH?
....
WE...
WE'RE REALLY GETTING CLOSE, AREN'T WE?

YEAH...
IF THE STATUE REALLY HOLDS THE SECRET TO MAKE YOU HUMAN...
...IT WON'T BE LONG NOW, PAI.
MM!
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO WHEN YOU BECOME HUMAN...?
CAREFUL, THE STAIRS ARE STEEP...
HUH ?
$$
.....
DON'T YOU KNOW ?

BOY, YOU REALLY DO LIVE WITHOUT THINKING. DON'T YOU HAVE A BRAIN IN THAT HEAD OF YOURS?
WHAT THAT? A "BRAIN"...?
PAI DOESN'T HAVE ONE OF THOSE.
...
WELL, ANYWAY...
I CAN FINALLY GET BACK TO MY OLD LIFE.
NO WEIRD PARANORMAL STUFF, NO MONSTERS..
JUST GO TO SCHOOL, WORK, RIDE MY BIKE, HANG OUT WITH MY PALS--
WHAT? WHAT'S THE MATTER?

HEY, YAKUMO !
HUH ?
FOUND IT!
IT'S IN HERE!
BEEP BEEP BEEP
BLAM!
SKRAAACH!

BEEP
BEEP BEEP BEEP
WHA--?!
HURRY!
THE STATUE IS HERE!! IN THIS ROOM!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
!!

HHOW DID YOU...?!
SO!! YOU'RE THE THIEF!!

LING LING! DON'T!! YOU'LL GET HURT!!
鈴鈴!!
<LING LING!!>

HYA!!

WHA--
WHOOPS!
WHOK
URK!
KRAK
GIVE IT UP, YOU MURDEROUS THIEF! THE POLICE ARE ON THEIR WAY!!
THIS PLACE WILL BE SURROUNDED ANY MINUTE NOW!!
IT'S NOT GOING TO BE LIKE LAST NIGHT
THERE'S NO ESCAPE FOR YOU THIS TIME!
SO... SO YOU THINK!
SSHHH

I WON'T FALL FOR THAT ONE AGAIN!
ENOUGH OF YOUR STUPID TRICKS!
!?
HRRK!
UHH...
TOCHAU* KILL THEM!
*: "EARTH CLAN"
LING LING!
!!
NOT SO FAST, BUDDY!!
DAMN YOU!

SWRAK
EE EK!
PAI!
SLAM
PAI!! ARE YOU OKAY?!
Y-YES...B-BUT THE LIGHT BROKEN...!

THAT'S OKAY AS LONG AS YOU'RE ALL RIGHT.
BUT YAKUMO...
IT STILL IN THE ROOM!
IT WAITING FOR US AT THE DOOR..

THAT'S JUST GREAT!!
WITHOUT THE LIGHT WE CAN'T EVEN GET AWAY FROM IT, NEVER MIND GET RID OF IT!
YES...

THERE'S GOT TO BE SOME--

SKRAK
HMM ?!

!!

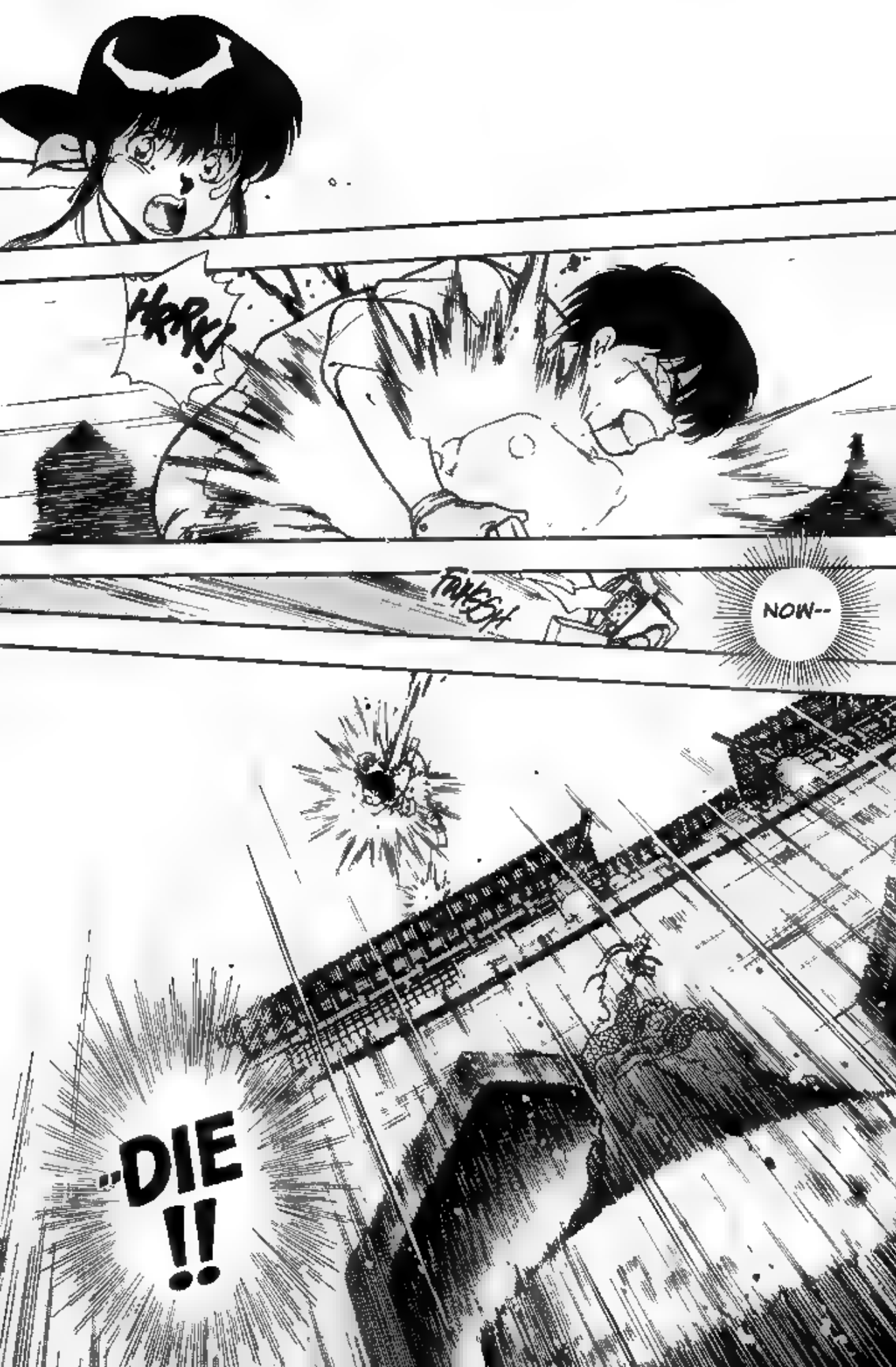
RAIN !?
YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING-- THE SUN'S HIDDEN ?!
SAY PAI-- CAN YOU TURN INTO A TRICLOPS NOW ?
!!
WHAT YOU TALKING ABOUT, YAKUMO ?!
WE GOT TO RUN AWAY!
SKRAAK
WHA--

HERE IT COMES!
YAIEE!
THDD
AW, C'MON-- GIMME A BREAK! I'M AFRAID OF HEIGHTS!
UH-OH!
A DEAD END!

YOW!
BKOOL
WHAM
MAN, IT'S STILL AFTER US!!
WHY DOES IT WANT THIS STATUE SO MUCH ?!?
SPRAKK
YAKUMO!
HNNK!

COME ON!! HERE IT IS!!
!!
YOU IDIOT!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
IT'S OKAY- AS LONG AS YAKUMO IS SAFE, I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO PAI!
HEY, WAIT A SEC!!

I KNOW WHAT TO DO!!
DON'T BE STUPID, PAI!! OF COURSE IT MATTERS WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU!
WE'RE LINKED IN LIFE OR DEATH!
WHY DIDN'T I...
...THINK OF THIS BEFORE?!
YAKUMO!
THUK

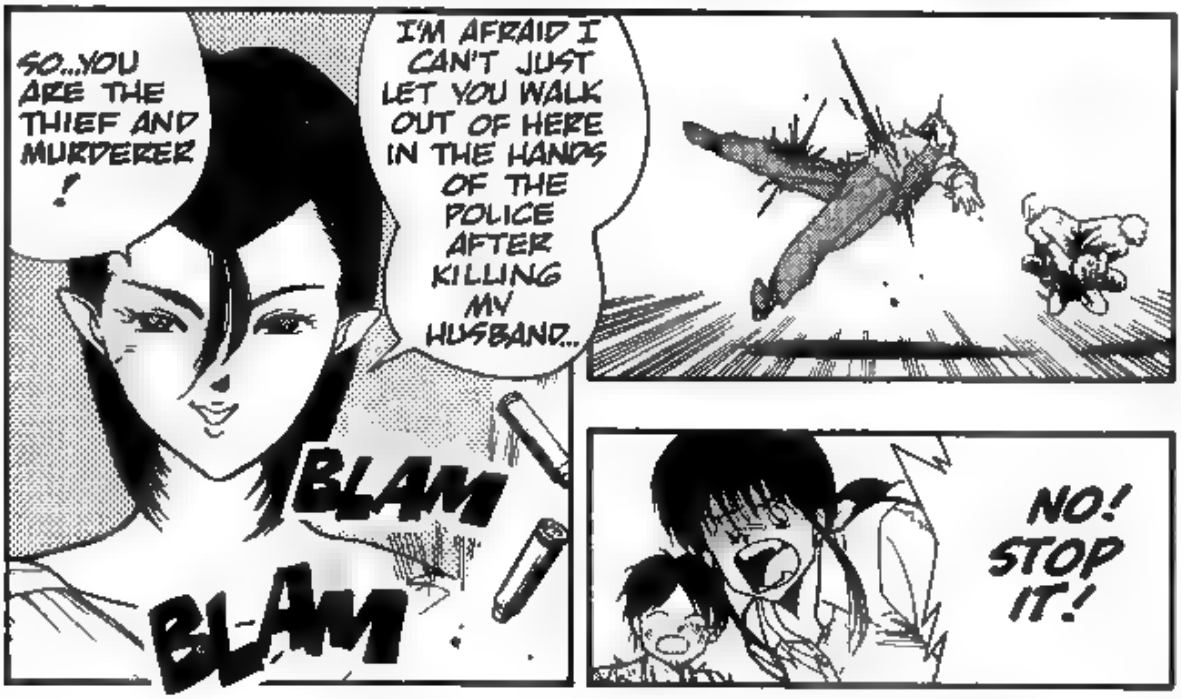

Hmph!
Tuksyt
NOW--
..DIE
!!

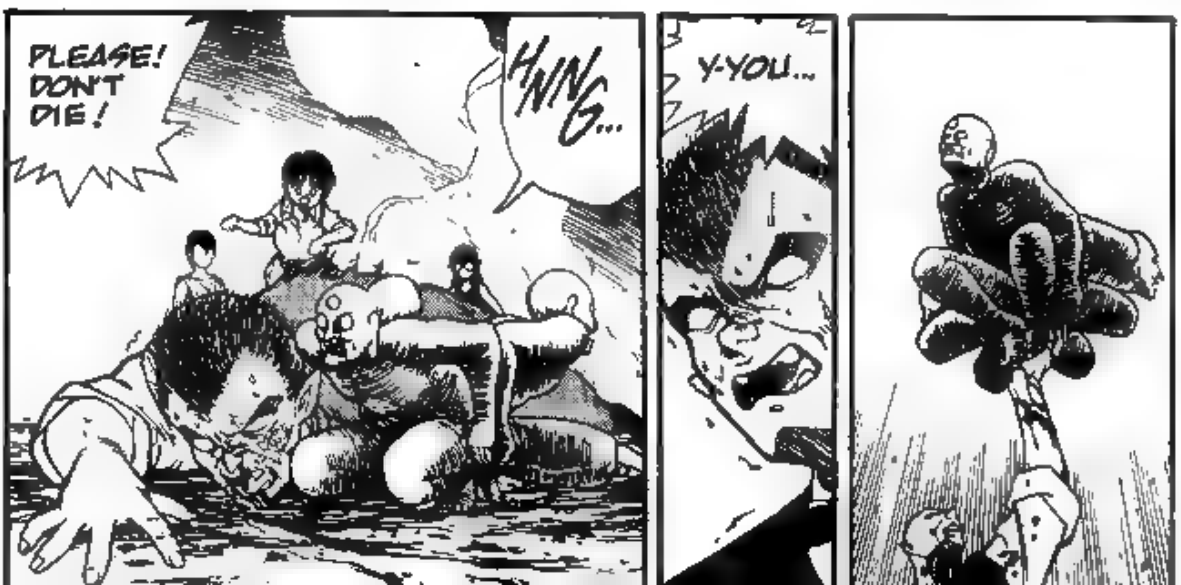
HEH, HEH, HEH...
WHDD
AAH!
FOOL !!

THIS BELONGS TO KAIYAN WANG!
KSHH
!!

WH... WHO IS "KAIYAN WANG"...?
THAT SYMBOL ON HIS FOREHEAD...!
IT... IT'S IMPOSSIBLE...
YAKUMO!
PAI...
!!
WEEOOWEEOO
THE POLICE ARE HERE— GIVE IT UP!
BUDDA BUDDA

HEH HAH HAH
YOU!
YOU HAVE BETRAYED, HSUNKAI..


SO...YOU ARE THE THIEF AND MURDERER!
I'M AFRAID I CAN'T JUST LET YOU WALK OUT OF HERE IN THE HANDS OF THE POLICE AFTER KILLING MY HUSBAND...
BLAM
BLAM


PLEASE! DON'T DIE!
HNNG...
Y-YOU...

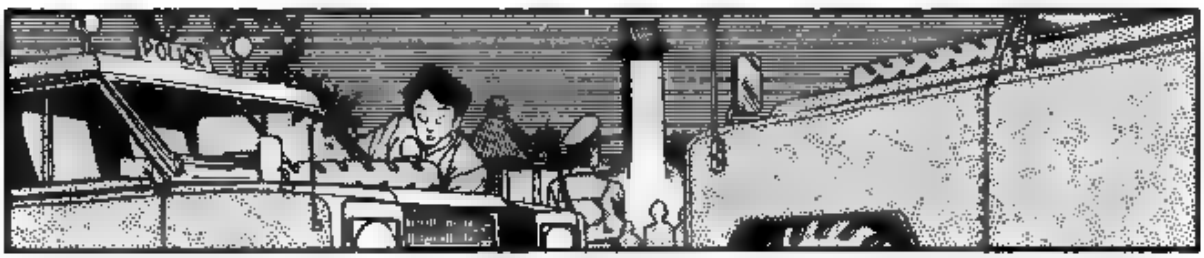
EEEK!
--YOU'LL NEVER POSSESS THIS STATUE!
!?

HOW THE NINGEN WILL ONCE AGAIN RETURN UNTO THE WORLD OF DARKNESS..

HSSHH

CHOU, YOU--!!

D-DESPAIR IN YOUR SEARCH...
HNK


POLICE

GEEZ... TALK ABOUT A WASTE OF TIME...
LOOKS LIKE I'M NOT GOING BACK TO MY OLD LIFE FOR A WHILE, HUH...
BUT... STILL...
...PAI IS KIND OF HAPPY, ANYWAY.
HUH? WHAT ARE YOU SMILING ABOUT?
YOU KNOW!
DON'T YOU REALIZE YOU'RE ALWAYS GOING TO BE A DEMON?
FOR A WHILE, YES!

AND "FOR A WHILE" WE'RE GOING TO BE AS ONE, I GUESS!
UH-UH !!
FOR ALWAYS !
?
?
WELL, WHATEVER !
I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS, GREAT KAIYAN WANG...
I SWEAR TO RECOVER THE STATUE BEFORE YOUR RETURN...
...AND I BEG YOUR FORGIVENESS!

HOW..
INTERESTING..
STILL..
THAT BOY HAS THE MARK OF "玉"..
PAI'S REALLY HUNGRY!
AW, COME ON— TAKE IT EASY— I GOTTA PAY FOR ALL THIS!
AH POOR WALLET...

AHA HA HA HA HA...!
END OF LABYRINTH OF THE DEMON'S EYE MINISERIES--
BUT YAKUMO AND PAI WILL BE BACK!

- Yakumo Fujii wants nothing more than a normal life of an average high-school student. Yet Yakumo has a problem: he is a zombie, and his fate is tied to that of his immortal friend, Pa...
- To make matters worse, trouble looks just around the corner. The Gesu, a mysterious and horrible [illegible] threatens to subject Yakumo and everyone he knows to the horrors of hell itself.
- Join the mind of Yuzo Takada as 3x3 Eyes mystical, humorous, and wonderfully weird!

DARK HORSE COMICS

Manga

3X3 EYES
1 OF 5

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3x3 eyes

サザン アイズ

Curse of the Gesu

3×3 eyes サザン アイズ

Curse of the Gesu

story and art by
Yuzo Takada

translation by
Toshifumi Yoshida and Toren Smith

lettering and retouch by
Wayne Truman

design by
Harald Graham

edited by
Dave Chipps and Marilee Hord

English version produced by
Studio Proteus for Dark Horse Comics, Inc

▶ The story so far (as found in the Dark Horse graphic novel, *3x3 Eyes*)...

■ Years ago, explorer Satoru Fujii, lost in the mountains of Tibet, was found by a 300-year-old girl named Pai. Pai was the last remaining member of the Sanjiyan Unkara the fabled Triclops, a race possessing the power of eternal life. The Triclops, once in their lives, devour a human soul and desire nothing more than to become human themselves. The dying Fujii promised to help Pai become human and sent her to Tokyo to find his son, Yakumo.

■ In Tokyo, Yakumo and Pai met when he recovered her bag from a mugger. However, the mugger inadvertently released Pai's "familiar," the giant, man-faced bird, Takuhi. Takuhi attacked Yakumo, and was about to tear him apart when Pai's third eye appeared, and her sanjiyan half devoured Yakumo's soul. The sign of "wu" appeared on Yakumo's forehead. He was now one of the undead, and he and Pai became as one: if the sanjiyan were to die, so would Yakumo, and if the sanjiyan were to become human, Yakumo would return to human form as well.

■ Yakumo promised to help Pai in her quest for humanity. Together, they traveled to Hong Kong to find the occult specialist, Mr. Aguri. Aguri was away but his assistant, Li Ling Ling, came to their aid with a photo of the ningen statue, the artifact they needed to make Pai human.

■ During his travels, Aguri found the ningen in the possession of the sorceress Lady Huang, disciple of the demon-eye king Kaiyan Wang. Lady Huang turned Aguri to stone and decided to eliminate Aguri's associates.

■ At the Huang mansion, the evil Lady Huang posed as the innocent Ms. Huang, while her aide, Chou, and his claw-demon Tochau battled Yakumo, Pai, and Ling Ling for possession of the ningen. During the battle, Chou and Tochau were killed, and the ningen was pulled up from the earth, into the void. Lady Huang swore to recover it for Kaiyan Wang.

■ Yakumo needs the ningen if he is to keep his promise to Pai. For the time being, however, Yakumo has decided to return with Pai to Tokyo and resume his normal life.

Watch the videos from Streamline!

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THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP, JING LING.
NO, NO, IT WAS NOTHING.
PLEASE..
COME TO HONG KONG AGAIN SOON, YAKUMO.
HONG KONG

AND MS. HUANG HAS AGREED TO BACK US UP FINANCIALLY TO CONTINUE THE SEARCH.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE NINGEN.* THE TRACER I PUT ON IT WILL LAST FOR TWO YEARS.
SO HOW COULD YOU GO BACK TO JAPAN?!
HMPH!

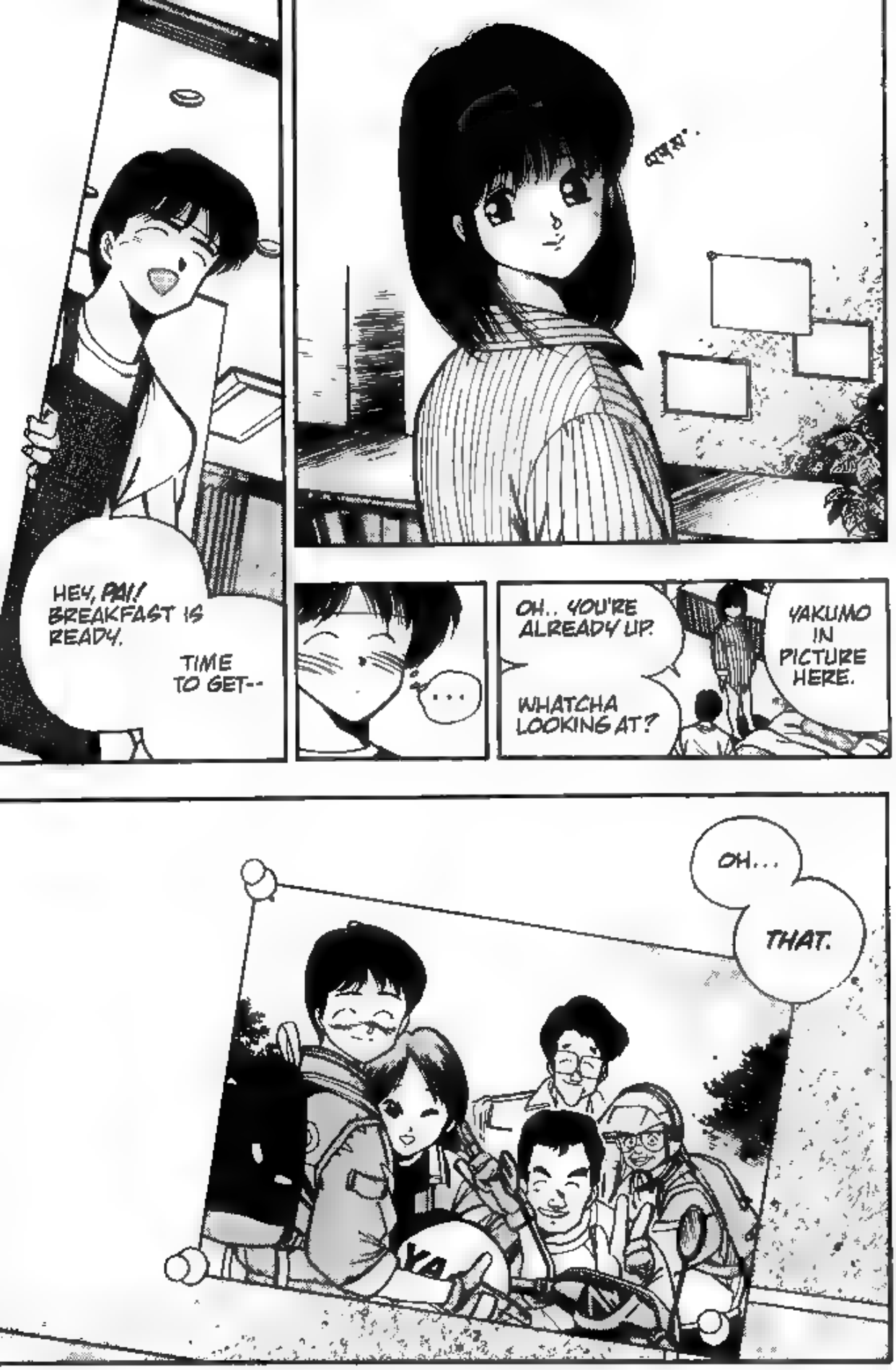
*SEE THE DARKHORSE 3X3 EYES GRAPHIC NOVEL.

3X3 EYES

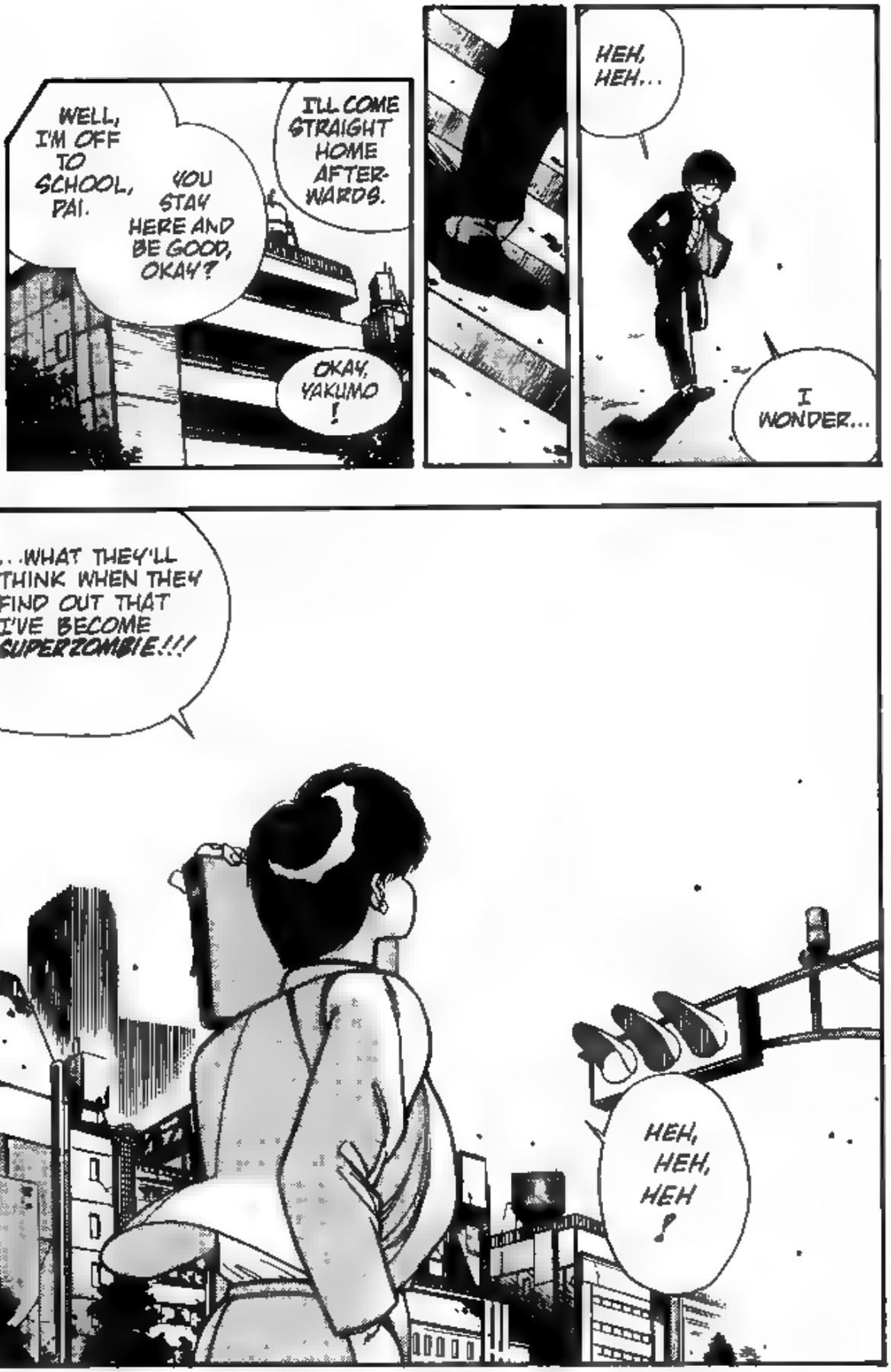
CURSE OF THE GESU
CHAPTER 1

SHINJUKU

AHH...
IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK IN JAPAN!
HONG KONG
I FEEL ALIVE AGAIN.


HEY, PAI! BREAKFAST IS READY.
TIME TO GET--
...
OH.. YOU'RE ALREADY UP.
WHATCHA LOOKING AT?
YAKUMO IN PICTURE HERE.
OH...
THAT.

IT'S A PHOTO OF ME AND MY BUDDIES.
SEE? THEY SENT ME A BUNCHA LETTERS WHILE WE WERE IN HONG KONG.
"BUDDIES"...? WHAT MEAN THAT?
YOU KNOW, LIKE "FRIENDS."
PEOPLE I GO TO SCHOOL WITH, HANG OUT WITH.
WE ALSO GO ON MOTORCYCLE TRIPS TOGETHER AND STUFF.
THEY'RE A REALLY NICE BUNCH!
HMM...
THEN AGAIN...
YAKUMO, YOU SCUMBAG JERK! WHAT KIND OF MORON ARE YOU, SKIPPING OUT ON OUR MOTORCYCLE TOUR LIKE THAT!? WHEN YOU GET BACK, YOU ARE DEAD MEAT, BUDDY!


WELL, I'M OFF TO SCHOOL, PAI.
YOU STAY HERE AND BE GOOD, OKAY?
I'LL COME STRAIGHT HOME AFTER-WARDS.
OKAY, YAKUMO!
HEH, HEH...
I WONDER...
...WHAT THEY'LL THINK WHEN THEY FIND OUT THAT I'VE BECOME SUPERZOMBIE!!!
HEH, HEH, HEH!

.....
.....
ER,
YOUR FUTURE... BLAH BLAH...
ZZZZ
HA HA

YAKUMO, YOU IDIOT!
BLAH... TRY HARD..
ERM...

YOU BLOW OFF OUR MOTORCYCLE TOUR AND THIS IS YOUR LAME-ASS EXCUSE...?

JEEZ, PIPE DOWN, TATSUYA! AND CUT ME A LITTLE SLACK, WILL YA?!
YER STILL A JERK!
AND WHAT THE HECK IS THIS "SUPER-ZOMBIE" CRAP?!

I WAS TRYING TO.. UH... HELP PAI BECOME HUMAN...

...UH...YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T GET IT...

LOOK... I'M REALLY SORRY, OKAY?

AW, HEY, DON'T SWEAT IT, HUH?
WE CAN ALWAYS GO ANOTHER TIME, RIGHT?
YOU BELIEVE ME, HIDEYOSHI?
HUH!

IT'S THE TRUTH, I SWEAR! I WAS IN HONG KONG FIGHTING MONSTERS!

WAP WAP

HEH, HEH, HEH...
WAP WAP
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, SARU?

SO WHAT DID YA BRING ME FROM HONG KONG?

....

NONE OF YOU IDIOTS BELIEVE ME, DO YOU?!
C-CALM DOWN, YAKUMO!
YOU BACK THERE! BE QUIET!

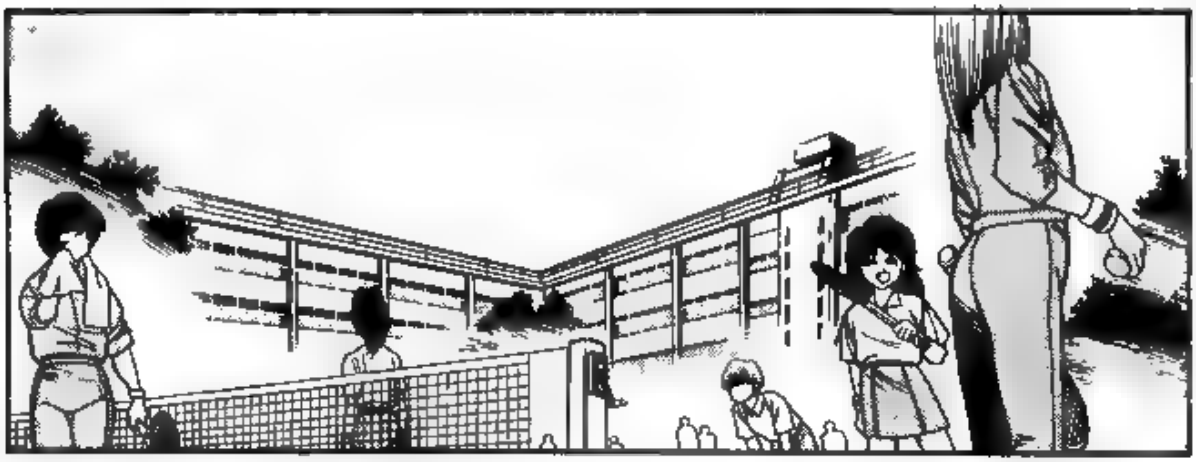
IDIOT...
DETENTION AREA
始業式

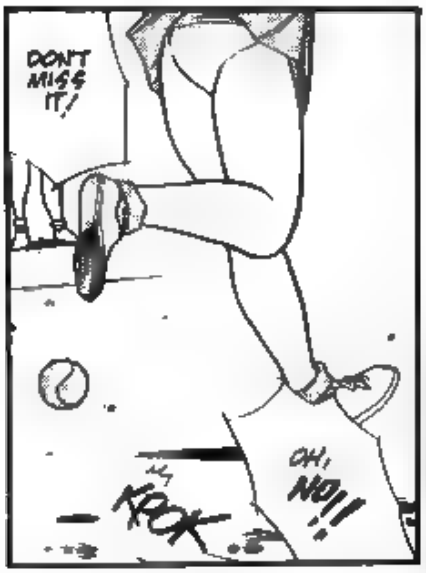
JEEZ... YOU GUYS GET IN TROUBLE AGAIN?
HEE HEE HEE
YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN TO QUIT, DO YOU?

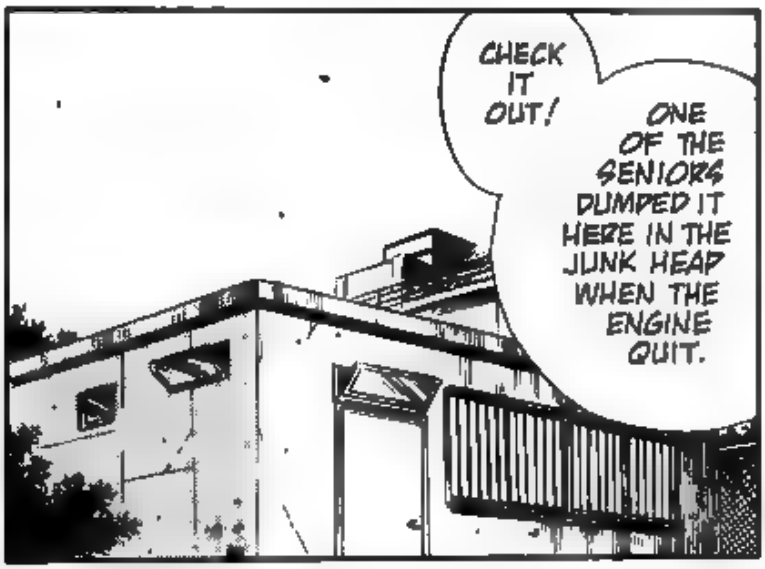
HEY, NATSUKO, LONG TIME NO SEE.

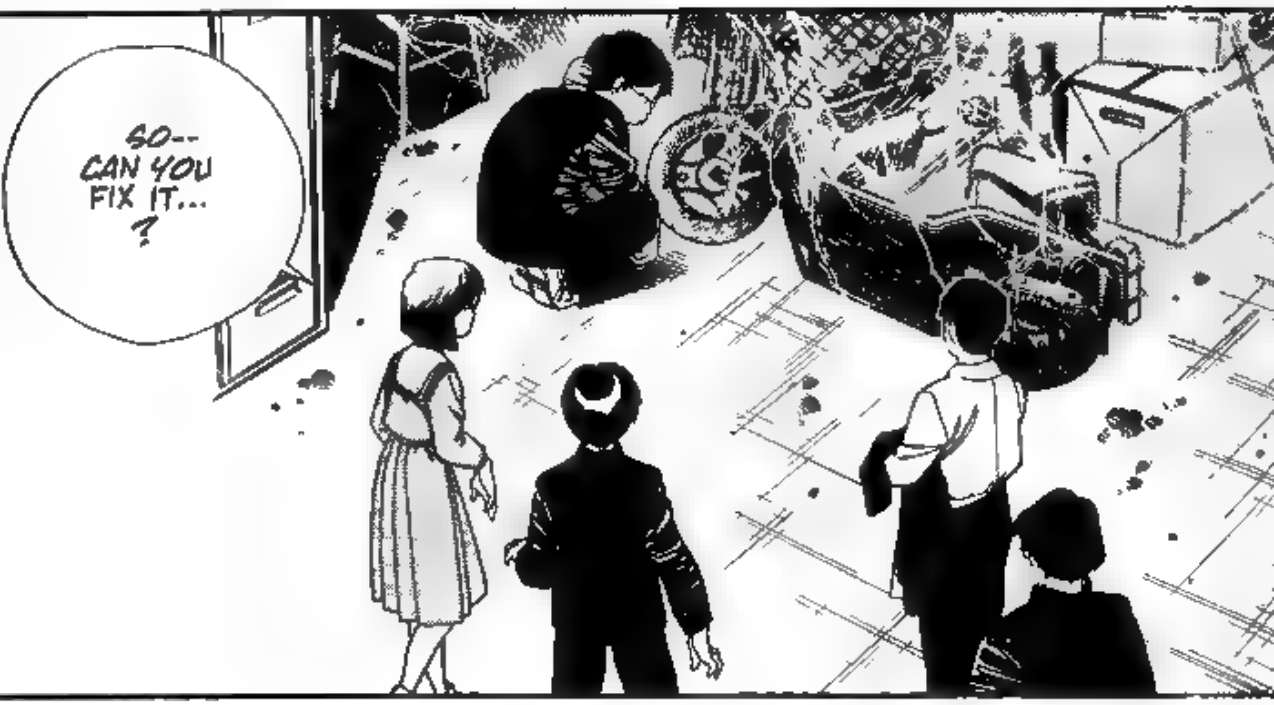
S-SORRY!
DON'T GIVE ME THAT, YOU TURKEY!
HOW COULD YOU SKIP OUT ON US, YAKUMO? I HEARD YOU WENT TO HONG KONG INSTEAD!

JUST KIDDING!
I'M NOT TOO MAD...BESIDES, WE STILL HAVE TIME FOR ANOTHER TRIP TOGETHER THIS YEAR!
TA-DAH!
Bike
Motocycle Touring Destinations
KARUIZAWA
NOT GONNA HAPPEN!
HUH? WHY?
LEMME TELL YA WHAT OUR IDIOT PAL HERE DID-- NOT ONLY DID HE SKIP OUT ON OUR TRIP, HE WENT INTO DEBT TO GO TO HONG KONG AND TOTALED HIS BIKE BEFORE GOING THERE.
SO HE AIN'T GOING ANYWHERE!
I'M GONNA STRANGLE YOU, YOU JERK!




DON'T MISS IT!
KRAK
OH, NO!!


CHECK IT OUT!
ONE OF THE SENIORS DUMPED IT HERE IN THE JUNK HEAP WHEN THE ENGINE QUIT.

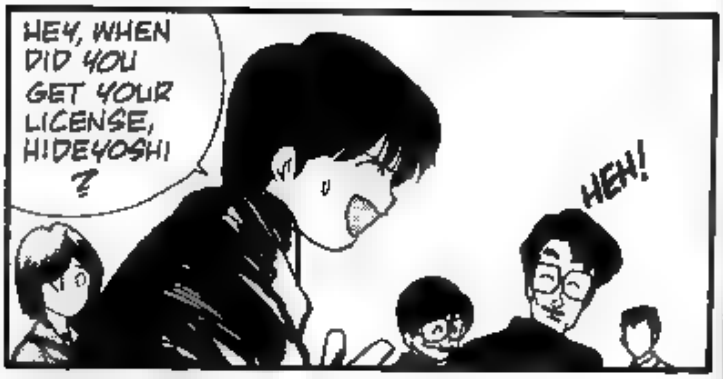

SO-- CAN YOU FIX IT... ?

YEAH, I FIGURE I CAN DO IT.

RIGHT ON!

OKAY, THEN, WE'RE SET! WE GO TO KARUIZAWA THE WEEK AFTER NEXT AND SPEND SATURDAY NIGHT THERE. I'VE DECIDED!
RIGHT? RIGHT?
WE CAN PICK UP BABES THERE!
HEY, THAT'S WHAT I LIKE TO HEAR! A LADY WITH ATTITUDE!

ALL RIGHT, THE SOONER THE BETTER. I'LL GET MY FATHER'S TRUCK SO WE CAN HAUL THIS OUT OF HERE
I KNOW A PLACE WE CAN TAKE IT.


HEY, WHEN DID YOU GET YOUR LICENSE, HIDEYOSHI ?
HEH!

LICENSE ? WHAT LICENSE ?!
WHO CARES-- I KNOW HOW TO DRIVE!
HEH HEH!
YOU CRIMINAL !

WHAT'RE YOU SMIRKING ABOUT?
I CAN HARDLY EVEN SEE YOUR EYES.!!
HM?

OH, JUST SEEING EVERYONE HELPING OUT LIKE THIS... IT REALLY MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'M STILL PART OF THE GANG.

OH, CUT IT OUT!
YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE YOU QUIT BEING ONE OF US OR SOMETHING!
HEE HEE HEE

SHEESH...

SCHOOL... MY PALS... A CYCLE TOUR TO KARUIZAWA WITHIN A COUPLE OF WEEKS...
...LIFE'S GETTING BACK TO NORMAL AGAIN.
YOU FOOL!
HUH?

YOW!
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO YOUR PROMISE TO PAI, TO MAKE HER HUMAN?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "WHATEVER HAPPENED"?
IT WOULDN'T HAVE DONE ANY GOOD TO STAY IN HONG KONG!
AND BESIDES THAT, I GOT A LOT OF QUESTIONS I WANT TO ASK YOU!
YAKUMO, YOU MUST LEAVE THIS LAND.

CAN YOU NOT SEE THAT YOU CAN NO LONGER LIVE AS YOU USED TO...?
STAYING IN THIS PLACE THAT WAS ONCE YOUR HOME WILL ONLY LEAD TO TRAGEDY.
YOUR OLD LIFE IS OVER. IT WILL NOT LAST EVEN TWO MORE WEEKS.

SHUT UP!!
I'VE HEARD ENOUGH OF THAT CRAP!
JUST SHUT UP AND STOP INTERFERING WITH MY LIFE!
HEY...?
WHO'RE YOU TALKING TO, YAKUMO?
UH...
ER... N-NOBODY...
OKAY... IF YOU SAY SO.
.....

GRRNNCK

JEEZ, GRIND ME A POUND, TOO! ARE YOU SURE YOU KNOW HOW TO DRIVE!?

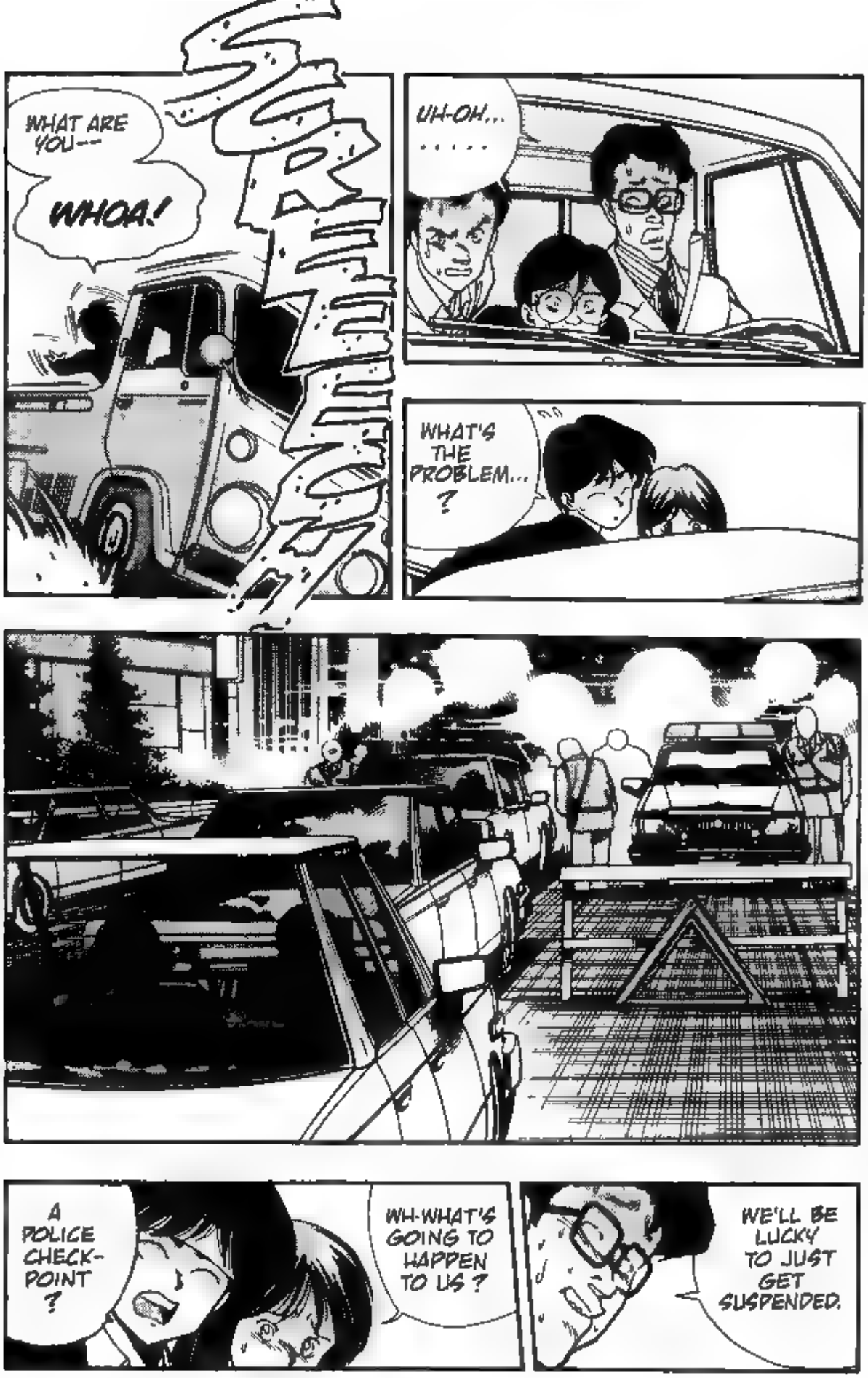
YEAH, YEAH, JUST NOT TOO GOOD WITH A MANUAL!

I WANT TO GO ON THAT TRIP EVEN IF IT KILLS ME...
...BUT TRY NOT TO GET INTO AN ACCIDENT ANYWAY, OKAY?!

AWW, SHUT YER YAP! I'M SHOWIN' HIM THE WAY, SO NO PROB, HEY?
HOW'S THAT SUPPOSED TO HELP HIM DRIVE?

WELL, UH... IT ISN'T, I GUESS...
I KNEW IT!!
OKAY, WE'RE OFF!!

YOU'RE DOING IT AGAIN!
HUH?
THE WAY YOU LOOK AT US AND SMILE...
...IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU'VE BECOME.. I DUNNO.
IT'S LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO DISAPPEAR AGAIN OR SOMETHING.


SCREECH
WHAT ARE YOU---
WHOA!
UH-OH...
.....
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM...?
A POLICE CHECK-POINT?
WH-WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US?
WE'LL BE LUCKY TO JUST GET SUSPENDED.

OR IN THE WORST CASE...
...EXPELLED!
OKAY!
NOBODY PANIC! WE--
WHUD
I'M OUTTA HERE!
AIEE!
OH, NO... WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?
HEY, THAT TRUCK JUMPED THE DIVIDER!
GET A GRIP, HIDEYOSHI!!
YOU'LL NEVER GET AWAY!
OH, MAN... NOW I'M REALLY SCREWED...

DAMN! MAYBE I CAN COVER THE LICENSE PLATE...
"YOUR OLD LIFE IS OVER. IT WILL NOT LAST EVEN TWO MORE WEEKS."
OH, YEAH?!
I'M GOING ON THAT TRIP NO MATTER WHAT!
YOU IN THE TRUCK! PULL OVER IMMEDIATELY!
POLICE

OH, WELL... HERE WE GO!
HEY, GUYS--I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE COPS!
YOU MAKE SURE...
...YOU GET AWAY!
KARUIZAWA, HERE I COME!
Y-
YAKUMO!
YAKUMO!

YES
AHH! SKREEE
YAKUMO !
OH, MY GOD!
POLICE

=ULP=...
OH, J-JESUS...
HE...HE'S GOTTA BE DEAD... MUST'VE DIED INSTANTLY..

GRAAAH!
HELP!
AIEE!!

TO BE CONTINUED!

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Curse of the Gesu

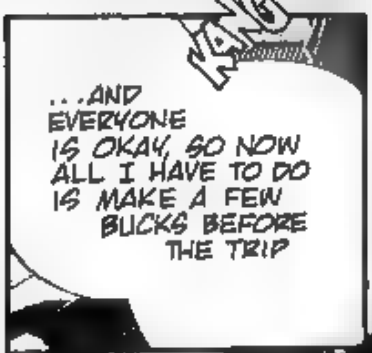
A-ARE...
ARE YOU S-SURE YOU'RE OKAY?

I MEAN... IT'S KINDA MY FAULT FOR TALKING YOU INTO OUR MOTORCYCLE TOUR..
YEAH. SORRY, MAN! I SWEAR I'LL NEVER DRIVE WITHOUT A LICENSE AGAIN!

C'MON, GUYS--DON'T SWEAT IT, OKAY?
ENOUGH WITH THE APOLOGIES... WE'RE ALL BUDDIES HERE, RIGHT?
HEH. HEH.!

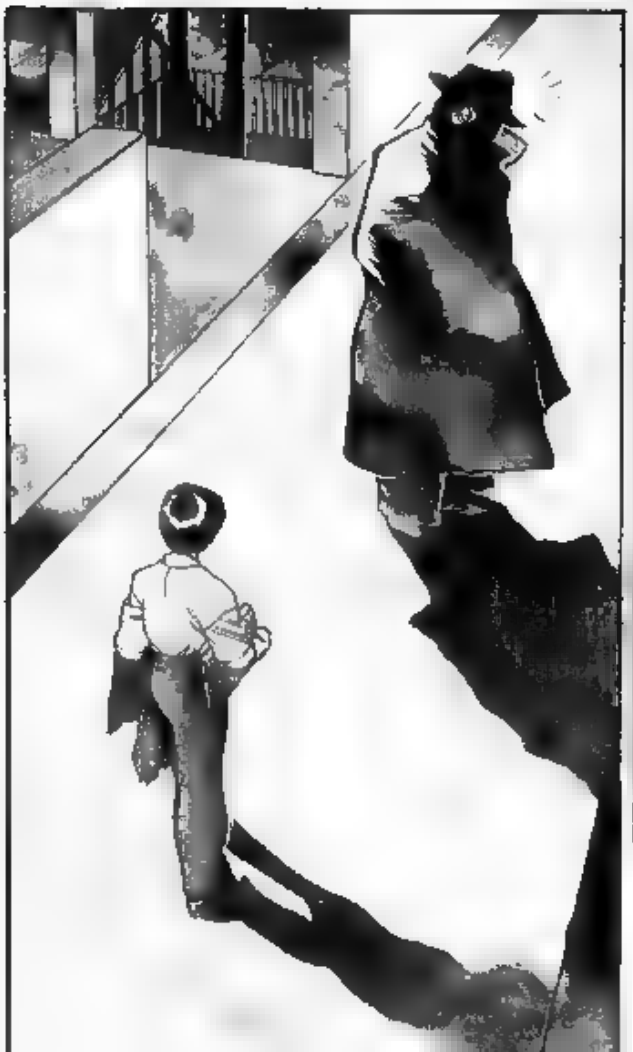
CURSE OF THE GESU
CHAPTER 2

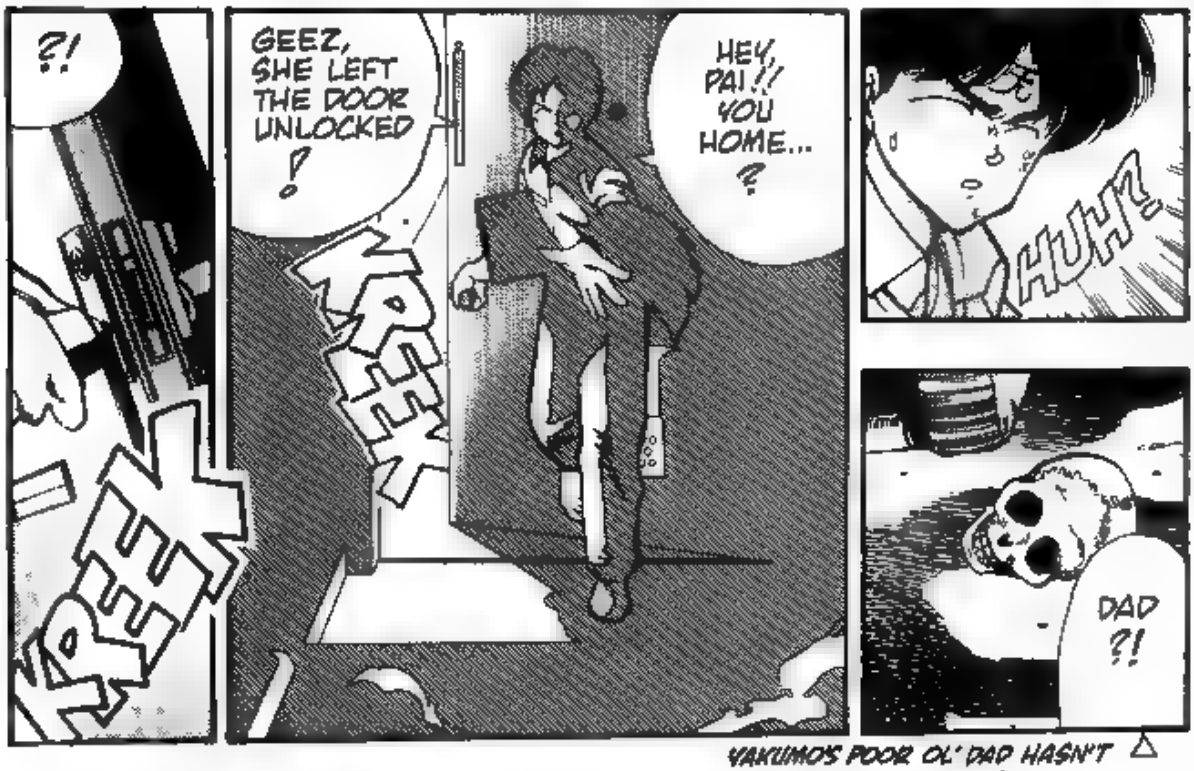
"YOUR OLD LIFE IS OVER. IT WILL NOT LAST EVEN TWO MORE WEEKS."



THE PROBLEM IS, WHEN IT COMES RIGHT DOWN TO IT, I JUST CAN'T TRUST THE SANJIVAN.
I MEAN, PAI IS OKAY, BUT.
THE QUESTION IS, HOW TO DEAL WITH HER "OTHER HALF" FROM NOW ON...?

.....
.....





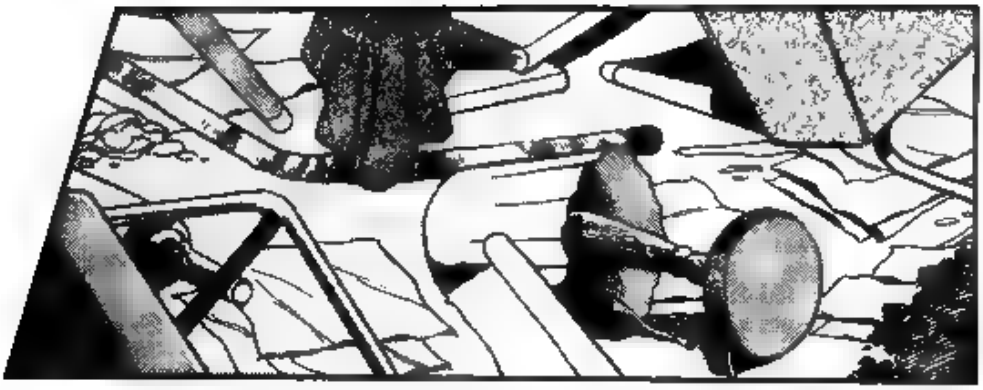
YAKUMO'S POOR OL' DAD HASN'T GOT A PROPER BURIAL YET...

SIGHH
AW, MAN.. GIVE ME A BREAK.
THNK

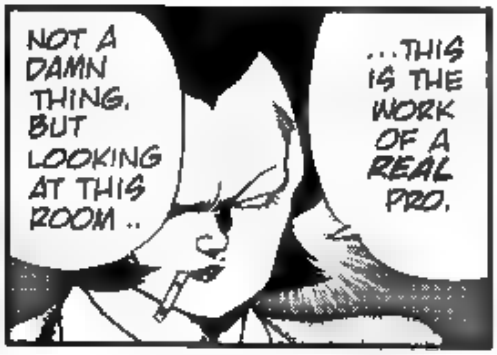
PAI!
ARE YOU HERE?!
PAI!
SLAM
BANG BANG!
BOSS!
HEY, BOSS-- YOU HOME?!
QUIT POUNDING ON MY DOOR, YOU GODDAMN MORON!
GYAH!
OH, YAKUMO!
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE BACK.
I..I THOUGHT MY HEART WAS GOING TO STOP WHEN I SAW YOU LOOKING LIKE THAT...
...NOT THAT I COULD DIE.
TUMP
TUMP

AH, GUADDAP.
SO, YOU LOOKING FOR PA! ?
SHE'S HERE... SLEEPING.
HUH ?
FIVE MINUTES AFTER I GOT HOME, SHE WAS AT MY DOOR SAYING SHE WAS STARVING, SO I LET HER IN.
YOU MUSTA TOLD HER HOW I USED TO COOK FOR YOU ALL THE TIME WHEN YOUR DAD WAS GONE ON TRIPS.
ZZZ
DAMMIT, BOSS-- SHE'S NOT SOME SORT OF TOY FOR YOU TO KEEP DRESSING UP IN CLOTHES FROM YOUR BAR!
WHY NOT ?

HEE HEE
AREN'T YOU BEING A LITTLE POSSESSIVE?
OOH... IS WIDDLE YAKUMO IN WOVE? ♡
HEY, HEY!
NOW, YOU LISTEN--PAI AND I DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF RELATION-SHIP!
SHE'S JUST SORT OF THIS... UHH... SOMEONE I WANT TO PROTECT...
SURE, SHE'S CUTE AND ALL, BUT SHE'S MORE LIKE A SISTER TO ME!
YOU GOT THAT, BOSS?! A SISTER!!
EVEN WORSE-- YOU HAVE INCESTUOUS FANTASIES OR SOMETHING?
WHY DO I EVEN TRY WITH YOU?!
ANYWAY, WE'VE GOT MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO TALK ABOUT!

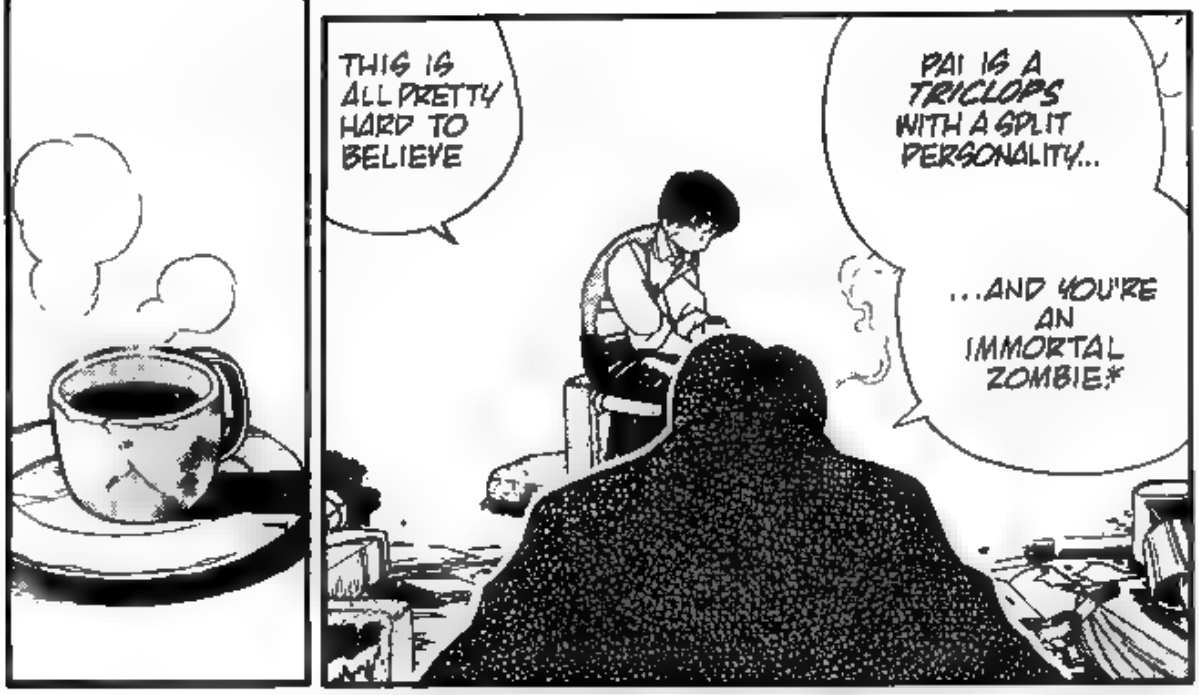


WOW... THIS IS PRETTY BAD.
HAVE YOU CALLED THE COPS?
YEAH, WELL, THE COPS...
I, UH, I'D KIND OF LIKE TO AVOID THEM TONIGHT.
DIDN'T YOU HEAR ANYTHING ACROSS THE HALL, BOSS?

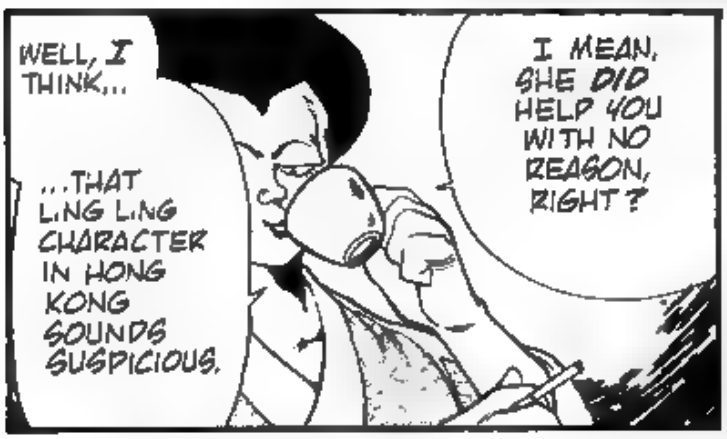

NOT A DAMN THING. BUT LOOKING AT THIS ROOM..
...THIS IS THE WORK OF A REAL PRO.

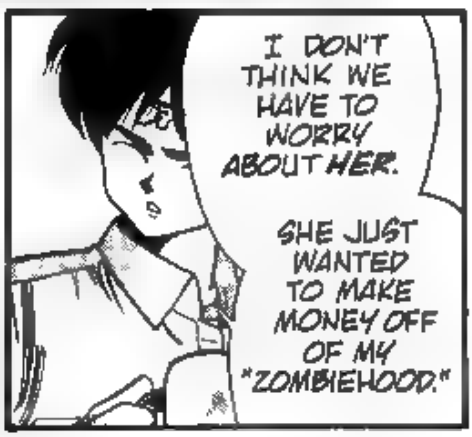
OH, YEAH?
THEN... IT'S NOT PAI WHO DID THIS

WHAT? YOU THOUGHT PAI DID THIS?! WHY?
WELL... BOSS, I'VE GOT A FEW THINGS TO TELL YOU...



*SEE THE DARK HORSE GRAPHIC NOVEL "3X3 EYES" FOR THE WHOLE STORY! --ED





WELL, MADAME HUANG SEEMS MORE LIKE A VICTIM, AND THAT CHOU SCUMBAG IS DEAD-- SO WHO'S LEFT?
I MEAN, NOTHING OF VALUE WAS TAKEN EXCEPT A FEW OF YOUR FATHER'S BOOKS

LIKE A YAKUZA* TRYING TO GET OUT...
...YOU JUST CAN'T GO BACK TO YOUR OLD LIFE.
LIKE PAI SAID...
...UNLESS YOU BECOME HUMAN AGAIN...
...TRYING TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU USED TO HAVE WILL ONLY BRING UNHAPPINESS

*JAPANESE MAFIA MEMBER

JUST THINK ABOUT IT-- THERE'S NOTHING ON THIS PLANET THAT CAN'T BE BROKEN, NOTHING THAT CAN'T DIE...EXCEPT YOU.
I'D SAY THE FACT THAT YOU'RE IMMORTAL WILL GIVE OTHER PEOPLE PLENTY OF INCENTIVE TO COME AFTER YOU FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER

COME ON-- WHAT'S WRONG WITH LEAVING YOUR BORING OLD LIFE BEHIND?
YOU CAN BOLDLY RESCUE THE GIRL YOU LOVE, HAVE AN EXCITING ADVENTURE, MAKE HER YOURS, AND GET LAID.
SOUNDS OKAY TO ME!!
AWW, GEEZ.
I DUNNO... I'VE NEVER LOOKED AT PAI IN THAT WAY.
BESIDES, SHE'S A MONSTER.
SO ARE YOU, YAKUMO.

ZZZ
ZZZZ

TO TELL THE TRUTH, YEAH, I THINK PAI IS PRETTY CUTE.
I JUST CAN'T UP AND LEAVE MY WHOLE PAST LIFE TO GO ON A JOURNEY TO BECOME HUMAN AGAIN.
BUT...
A JOURNEY THAT MIGHT NEVER END...
...BUT MY LIFE AND MY FRIENDS ARE IN TOKYO!
I'M SORRY, PAI. I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO TRUST YOU COMPLETELY.
I'M REALLY SORRY...
ZZZZZZ...

AHHH!
MMMM!
HMMM!
40!

HEY, GUYS! HOWZIT GOIN' ?!

WAH!!
HEY, THANKS FOR THE HELP YESTERDAY.
I CHANGED THE STARTER OUT, HOOKED UP A NEW BATTERY, AND IT WORKED... SO IT WAS A GREAT FIND!
I'M STOKED FOR THE KARUIZAWA TRIP!
UH...
Y-YEAH?
SO ANYHOW, AFTER YOU ALL LEFT--
WHA--?!
HEY-- THIS THAT NEW "COFFEE-IN-A-CAN" STUFF? GIMME A SWIG!
GLUK GLUK
NOT BAD-- THANKS!
F-FORGET IT...KEEP THE REST, YAKUMO.

AW, C'MON! I CAN'T TAKE THE WHOLE THING--YOU HARDLY HAD ANY!
SPLUP
NO, NO-- IT'S OKAY, MAN! LOOK, I... UM... I GOTTA GET GOING!
YEAH, ME TOO...!
HEY, BABE... WHAT'S YOUR SIGN?
FAP
HOWZAT FOR A BAD PICK-UP LINE?

AIEEK

UH, YAKUMO...
I'M S-SORRY... I D-DIDN'T MEAN TO...

WHAT?! NO WAY!
IT'S THE TRUTH, I SWEAR!!
HE WAS HIT BY A CAR AND ALL SMASHED UP, BUT HE GOT BETTER IN ABOUT TEN SECONDS!!
SO THAT GUY YOU THINK IS YAKUMO ISN'T THE REAL THING!!
OH, WOW!
NO WAY!!
GROSS!
SO WHAT IS HE...?
HE'S A MONSTER!

A...

A MONSTER...?

SARUWATARI!

HUH?

UH-OH!

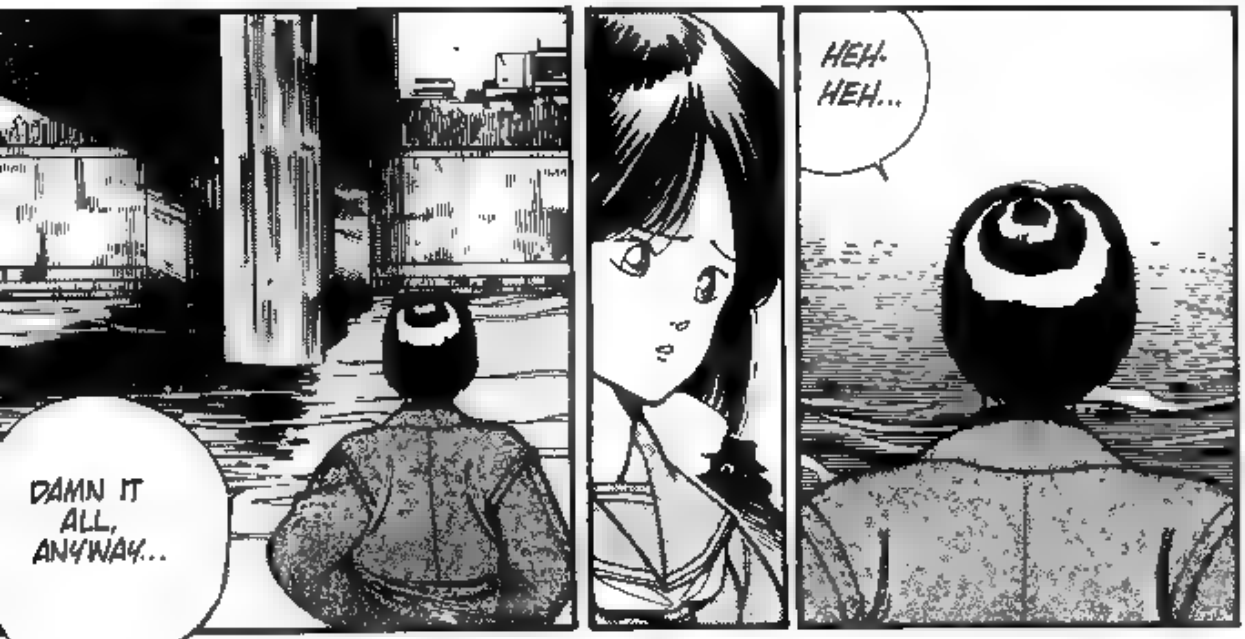
NO!
YAKUMO!
I'M NOT..

YA-KU-MO
FU-JII...
.....

YAKUMO...
I'M SO SORRY... REALLY.
WE'RE ALL JUST SCARED... THAT'S ALL.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLOGIZE, NATSUKO. I...I CAN UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL... I GUESS...

I MEAN, EVEN I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO TOTALLY TRUST PAI.
?
AW, MAN... IT'S JUST LIKE THE SANJIYAN SAID.


DAMN IT ALL, ANYWAY...
HEH-HEH...

LOOK... WILL YOU TELL EVERYONE TO TAKE CARE?
HUH?
I'M GOING TO LEAVE ON A LITTLE JOURNEY.
FIZZK
AND I PROMISE TO COME BACK AS A HUMAN BE.NG AGAIN.
YAKUMO, WHAT--?
HEY, DON'T WORRY...I'LL BE BACK BEFORE YOU KNOW IT.
SPARK
SEE YA...

EVAPORATE!
TO BE CONTINUED!

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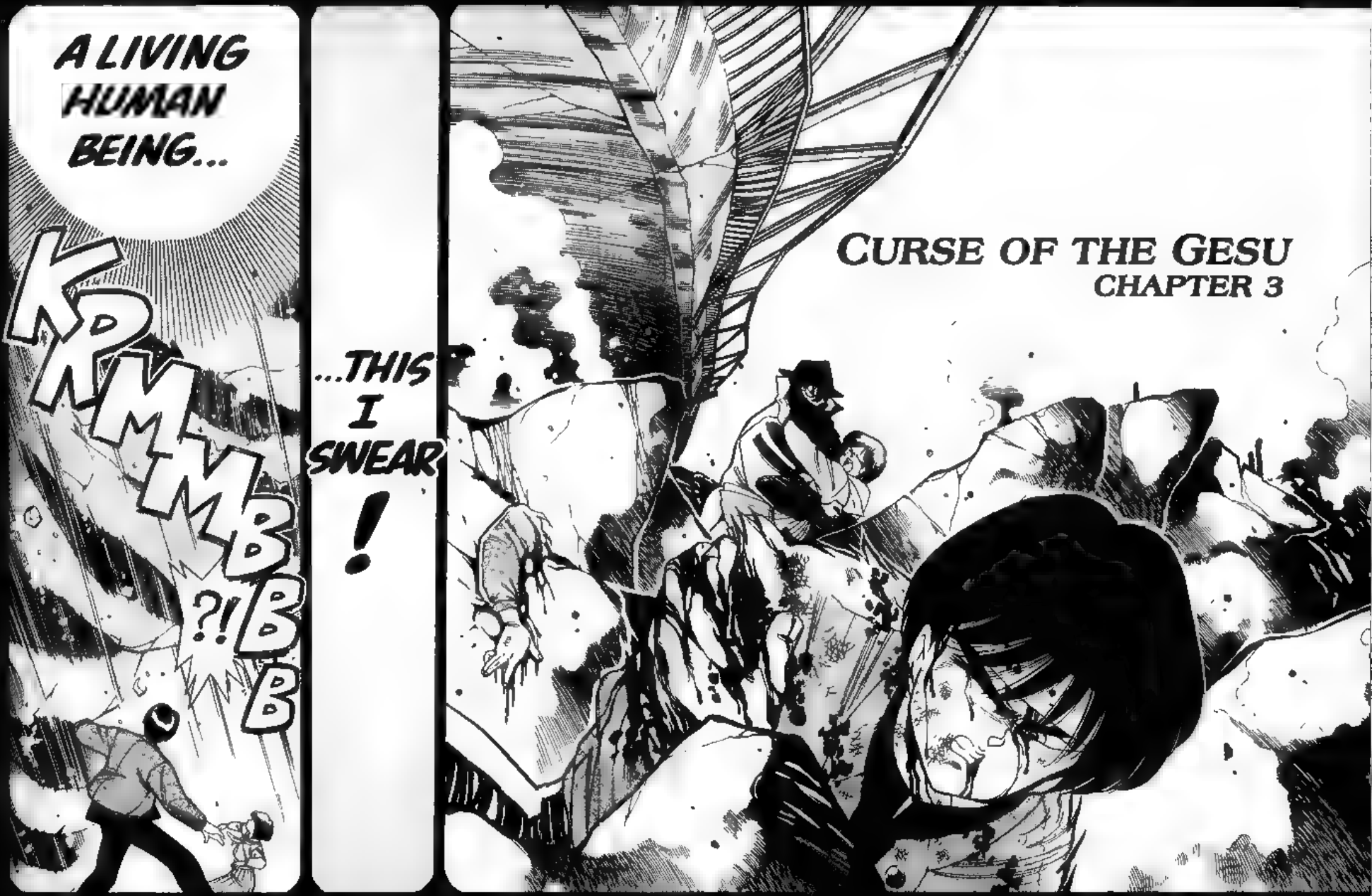
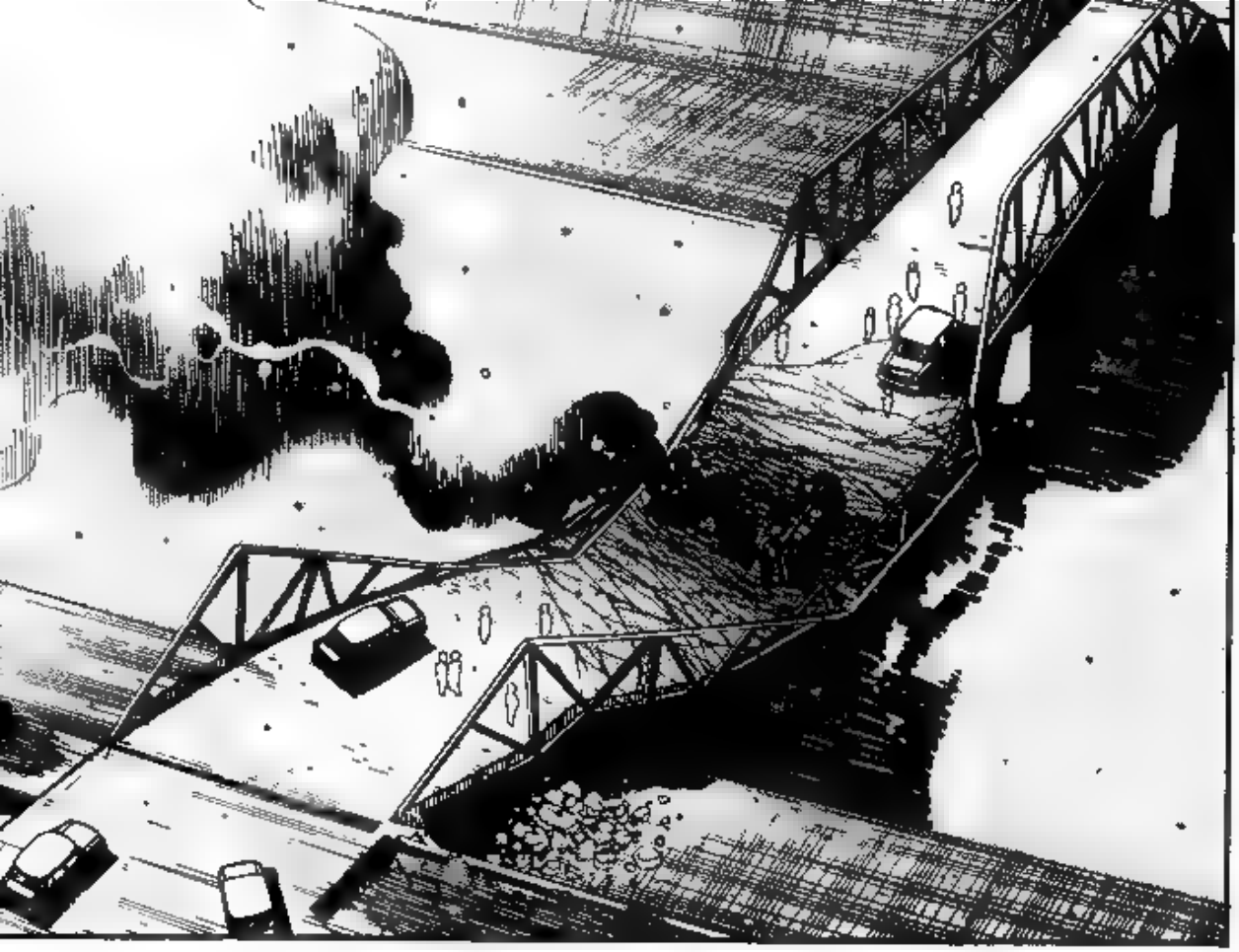
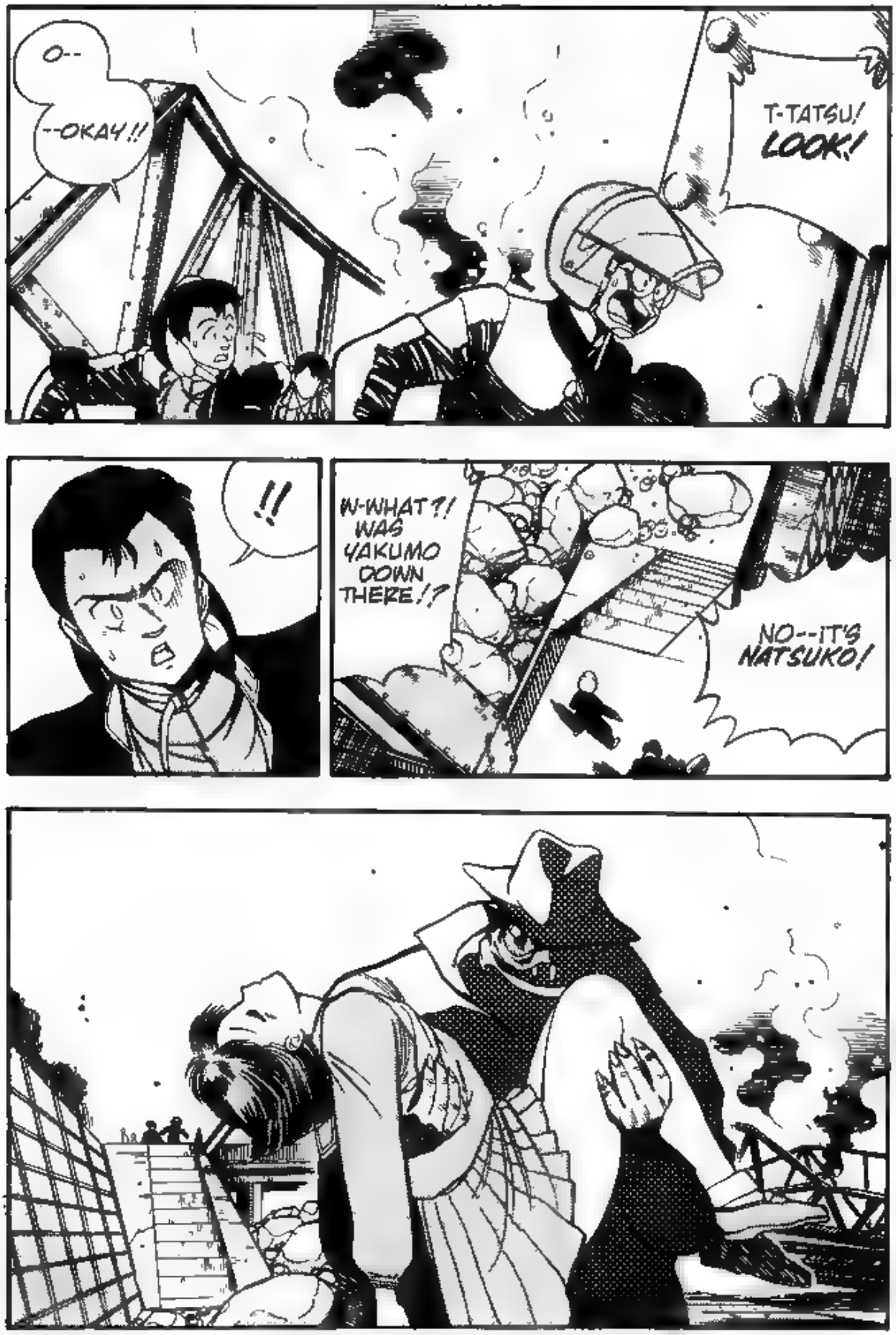
MY NAME IS YAKUMO FUJII, AGE SIXTEEN.
PURELY BY LUCK...
...A DEMON SAVED MY LIFE... WHICH IS KIND OF HARD TO COMPLAIN ABOUT!
EXCEPT..
...IN DOING SO, IT MADE ME AN IMMORTAL ZOMBIE.
GRRR
GSHHSS
SO NOW, MY FRIENDS TREAT ME LIKE I'M SOME SORT OF MONSTER..
AND I'M BEING FOLLOWED AROUND BY WEIRDOS.
I'VE HAD IT WITH THIS WHOLE MESS! SO I FINALLY MADE UP MY MIND--
--I'M LEAVING ON A JOURNEY.
AND I SWEAR I'LL COME BACK AS A HUMAN AGAIN.


A LIVING HUMAN BEING...
KRMMMBBB?!
...THIS I SWEAR!
CURSE OF THE GESU
CHAPTER 3



I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!! WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?

H-HEY, YOU!
CALL 911 AND GET AN AMBULANCE!
WE GOT PEOPLE HURT HERE!


O--
--OKAY!!
T-TATSU! LOOK!
!!
W-WHAT?! WAS YAKUMO DOWN THERE!?
NO--IT'S NATSUKO!

.....
UHH...
SKRSH
UHHG...
YOU...
NOT...
SANJIYAN.
NOT!!
NATSUKO!?

??
"SANJI--" WHAT?
WHAT DID HE SAY?
HUH...?
ARE YOU... SANJIYAN ?
YOU NOT!
KRAG!
FWAT

GHEH!
GHEH-GHEH!
IF NOT SANJIYAN... THEN YOU DESERVE... DEATH...
HEH HEH HEH
DIE!
NNO!! HELP!!
HOLD IT!

YOU BETTER BACK OFF, PAL!!
WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON HERE?!
LET NATSUKO GO!
AND LEAVE MY BUDDIES ALONE!
HRMM...
I SEE... YOU... REALLY ARE... AN IMMORTAL...

?!
A-KK
SPL
TH-THIS IS THE GUY... WHO DESTROYED THE BRIDGE!
DAMN THIS HURTS
HE'S AFTER ME? BUT WHY?
GHEH!
GHEH GHEH GHEH!
SHRIK

!!
NATSUKO!
GHEH-GHEH-GHEH!
NOW... I MUST FEED!
STOP IT! NOW!!
IF YOU HURT NATSUKO, I'LL--!
YOU DO WHAT?
GHEH GHEH GHEH
GHEH!! YOU DO NOTHING!!
WHUD
AAGH!!

THOSE.. WHO HAVE NOT... POWER..
UGH!!
...HAVE NOT... THE RIGHT... TO BEAR... THE MARK OF THE IMMORTAL... THE SACRED "无(WU)"!
AA!!
STOP!
NA..
--NATSUKO!
AIEE!!
STOP! NATSUKO HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS!
I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU ASK-- JUST STOP!

.....
WHERE IS... SANJIYAN UNKARA ?
FWIPP
!

SUCH ARROGANCE...
...FROM A FILTHY GESU!!*
* LOWER BEING.

SAN..
JI..
YAN..
PAI!!
PROBABLY SOME DEMON ASKED YOU TO CAPTURE ME...
..AM I RIGHT?
ONE OF THE KUEI-SUEN ?
SLRP
«HEH-«HEH.. I FOUND SANJIYAN. AT LAST..
«HEH-«HEH-«HEH.. NOW... I MUST FEED!

WHAT ?!
GHEH-GHEH... YES... IT IS TIME!
FILTHY GESU !!
?!

INFRAK
ALL RIGHT! IT'S TAKUHI!
WH-HA-WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?!
THAP
IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE YOUR MISERABLE EXISTENCE...
...LEAVE NOW!
HEH!
HEH-HEH!

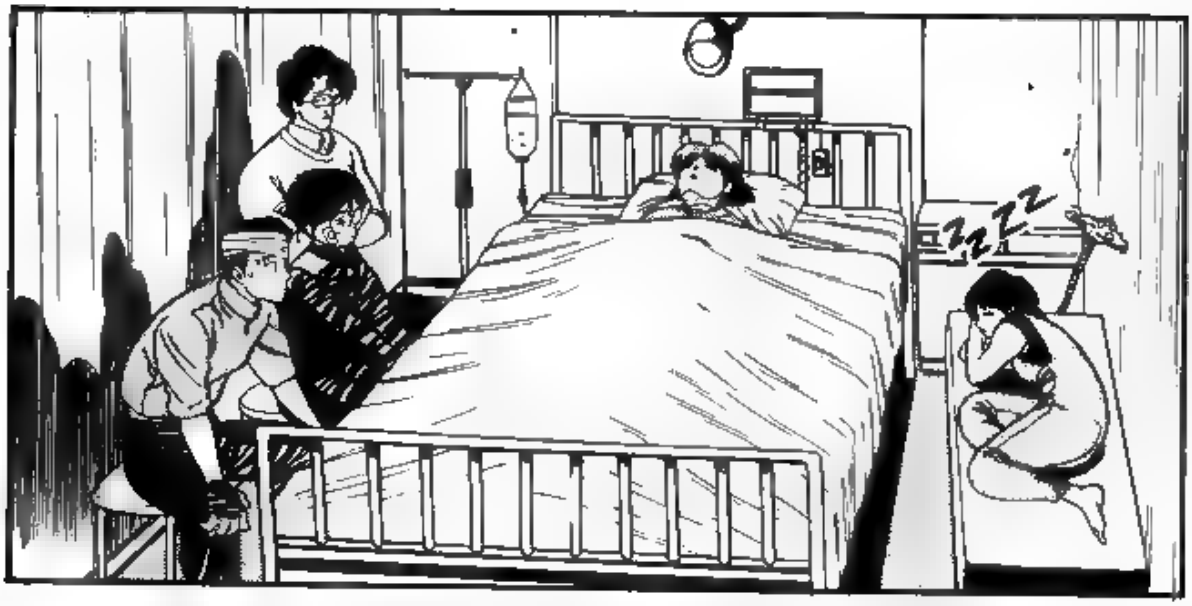
GRAGH!

I DOUBT I WILL BOTHER!
YOU... REMEMBER... THIS!
SSHHH
FFFT

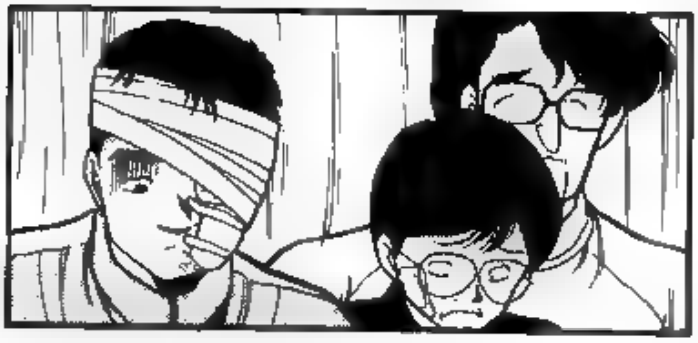
.....

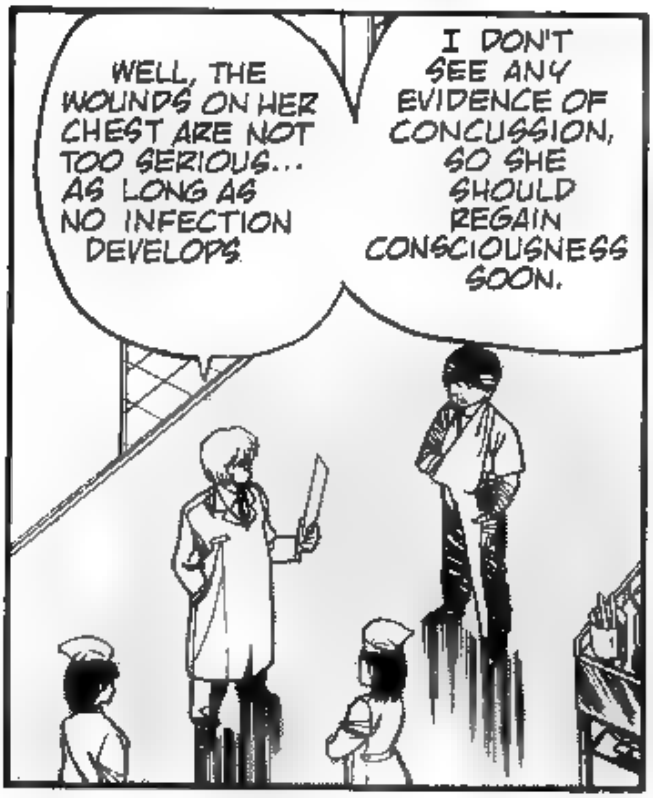
商岡鮮

HOSPITAL
HOSPITAL


ZZZZ

ZZZZ




WELL, THE WOUNDS ON HER CHEST ARE NOT TOO SERIOUS... AS LONG AS NO INFECTION DEVELOPS
I DON'T SEE ANY EVIDENCE OF CONCUSSION, SO SHE SHOULD REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS SOON.

AND AS FOR THE OTHER GIRL... SHE'S JUST SLEEPING.
R-RIGHT!

ER...
I...
UH...
UM...
WELL...
.....
AARGH!
OOGA-
BOOGA!

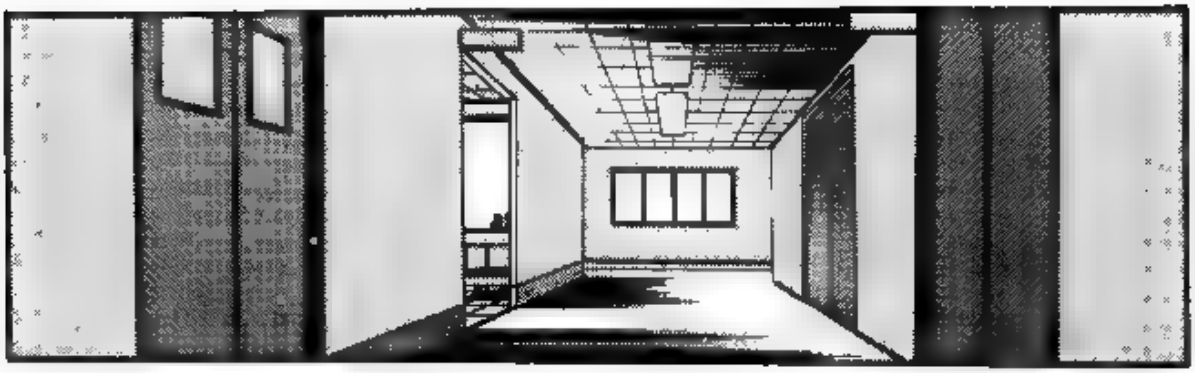
HEE-HEE...
THAT FOR LEAVING PAI ALL ALONE !
THAT HOW YOU SAY, YES? "ALL ALONE"...?
...!
!!
GEEZ, PAI!! THERE'S A TIME AND A PLACE FOR--
OH, NO, YAKUMO !
WHAT HAPPEN TO YOU!?
YAKUMO OKAY?
YAKUMO HURT?!

WAAH!!
DON'T DIE DON'T DIE DON'T DON'T !!
SNIFF SOB
DON'T BE SILLY. OF COURSE I WON'T DIE.
REALLY ?
HEY, JUST TRY TO KILL ME!
PAI...

LOOK, I'M SORRY I DRAGGED ALL OF YOU INTO THIS.
I'M LEAVING JAPAN RIGHT AWAY.
IF I STAY, I'LL JUST CAUSE MORE TROUBLE FOR YOU ALL.
SO...
...I'M GOING TO GO WITH PA! AND FIND A WAY TO BECOME HUMAN AGAIN.
AH! ♡
SNAK

PAI KNOW WHO THESE PEOPLE ARE!
THEY GAME FROM PICTURE!
YOU CALL THEM YOUR "BUDDIES," RIGHT?
YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT... WE'RE HIS BUDDIES!

WE'RE SORRY, MAN...
...WE WERE JUST...
FWIP
...Y'KNOW... KINDA FREAKED OUT.
ACTUALLY, WE WERE LOOKING FOR YOU, TO APOLOGIZE...
FWIP FWIP
...BUT THEN THE BRIDGE COLLAPSED AND STUFF.. AND SO WE GOT EVEN MORE FREAKED OUT



WE'LL BE WAITING, YAKUMO.
MAKE SURE YOU COME BACK, OKAY ?

I PROMISE !

EEK!!
KRASHHH
WHAT TH-?!
WHAT WAS THAT?!
?!

PAI!
NATSUKO!
TO BE CONTINUED!

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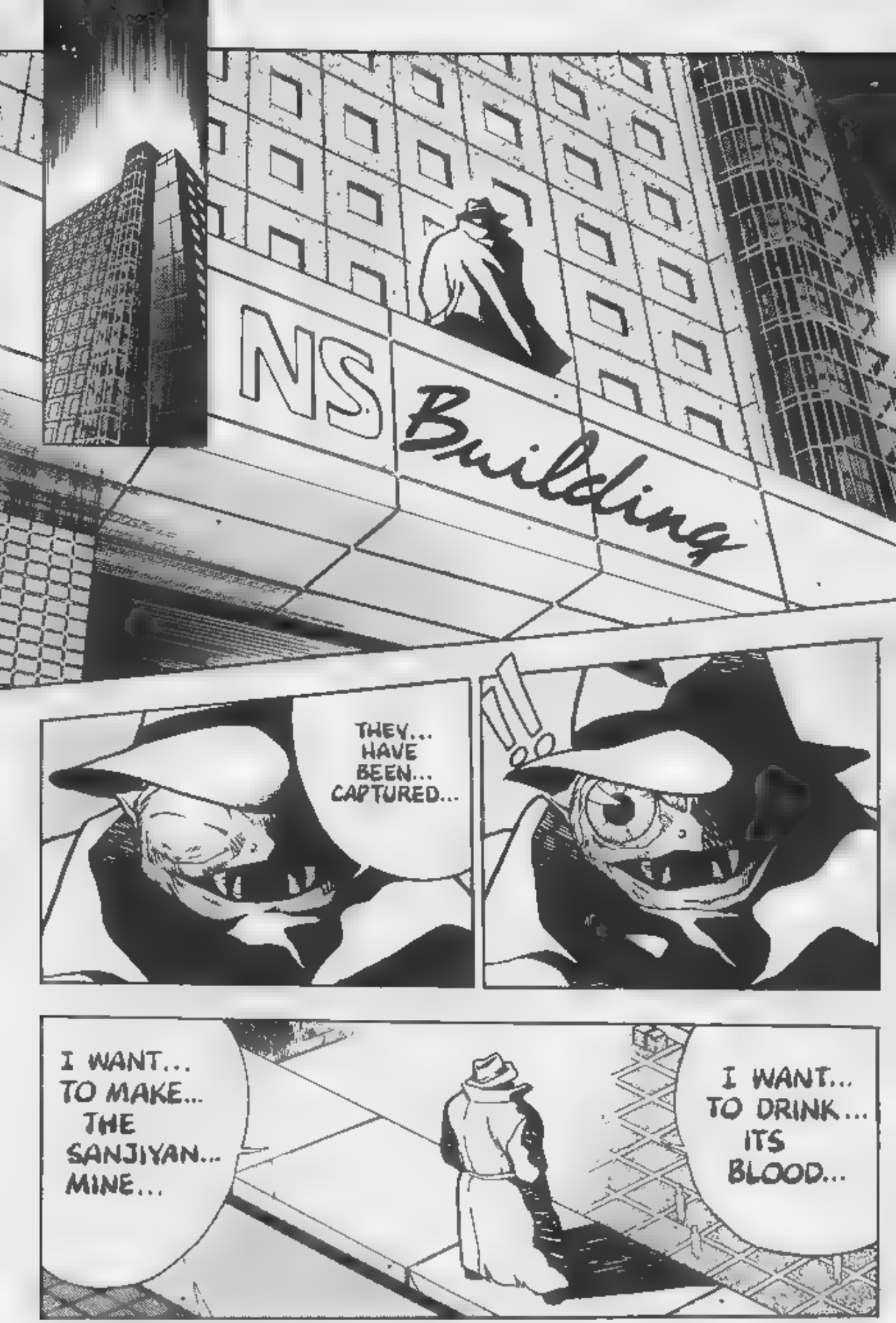
WHAT THE HELL'S HAPPENED TO NATSUKO, YAKUMO?!
DON'T ASK ME, BUT WE GOTTA CATCH THEM!

IF WE DON'T, WE'LL NEVER FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON!
DAMN IT! THAT DISGUSTING CREATURE MUST'VE DONE SOMETHING TO NATSUKO!
POP
OKAY, TAKUHI!! SHOW HIM WHAT YOU'VE GOT!!
FEET
CHU

I DUNNO WHAT YOU DID TO NATSUKO...
?!
...BUT NOW YOU'RE GONNA PAY FOR IT!

CURSE OF THE GESU
CHAPTER 4

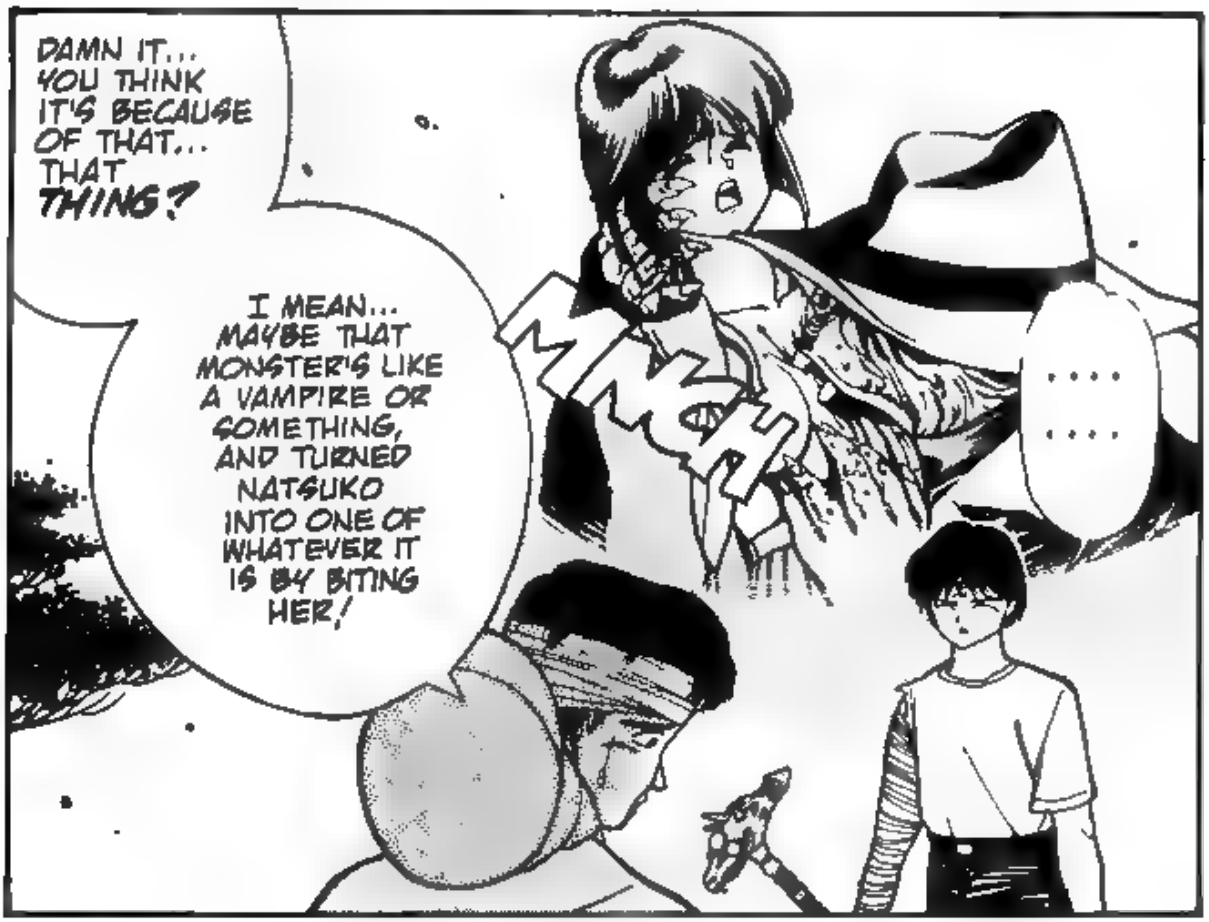

NS Building
THEY... HAVE BEEN... CAPTURED...
I WANT... TO MAKE... THE SANJIYAN... MINE...
I WANT... TO DRINK... ITS BLOOD...

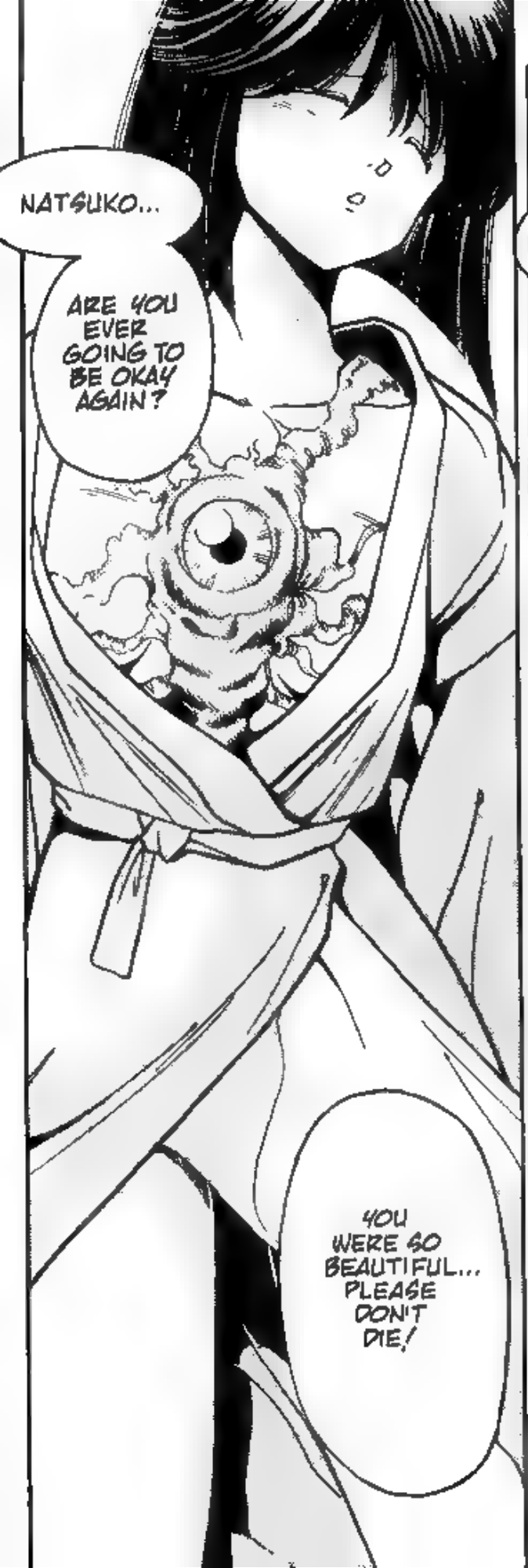
SO... I MUST... DESTROY... THE WU.
HEY, YOU!
GET OFFA THERE RIGHT NOW, BUDDY!
ARE YOU NUTS OR SOMETHING? YOU'RE GONNA--
?!

AA!
UUGH...!
GHOO
. . . . .
. . . . .
GHEH-
GHEH-
GHEH-
GHEH...
BRING ME... THE SANJIYAN...
YES, MASTER...

SHINJUKU PARK
WOW, THANKS, TAKUHI !!
YOU REALLY SAVED MY BUTT.
BECAUSE OF YOU, PAI'S SAFE.
SO...UH... COULD YOU PLEASE GO BACK IN YOUR CANE?
SEE THIS? I'M ON PAI'S SIDE, RIGHT?
OKAY?
FFT
WHEW...
FWSSSHH

.....
CHK
I DON'T KNOW, MAN...
HEY, TATSU-- HOW'S NATSUKO?


DAMN IT... YOU THINK IT'S BECAUSE OF THAT... THAT THING?
I MEAN... MAYBE THAT MONSTER'S LIKE A VAMPIRE OR SOMETHING, AND TURNED NATSUKO INTO ONE OF WHATEVER IT IS BY BITING HER!
MNGH
....
....


NATSUKO...
ARE YOU EVER GOING TO BE OKAY AGAIN?
YOU WERE SO BEAUTIFUL... PLEASE DON'T DIE!

NATSUKO...
NATSUKO...
PLEASE !!
PLEASE...
DON'T DIE...

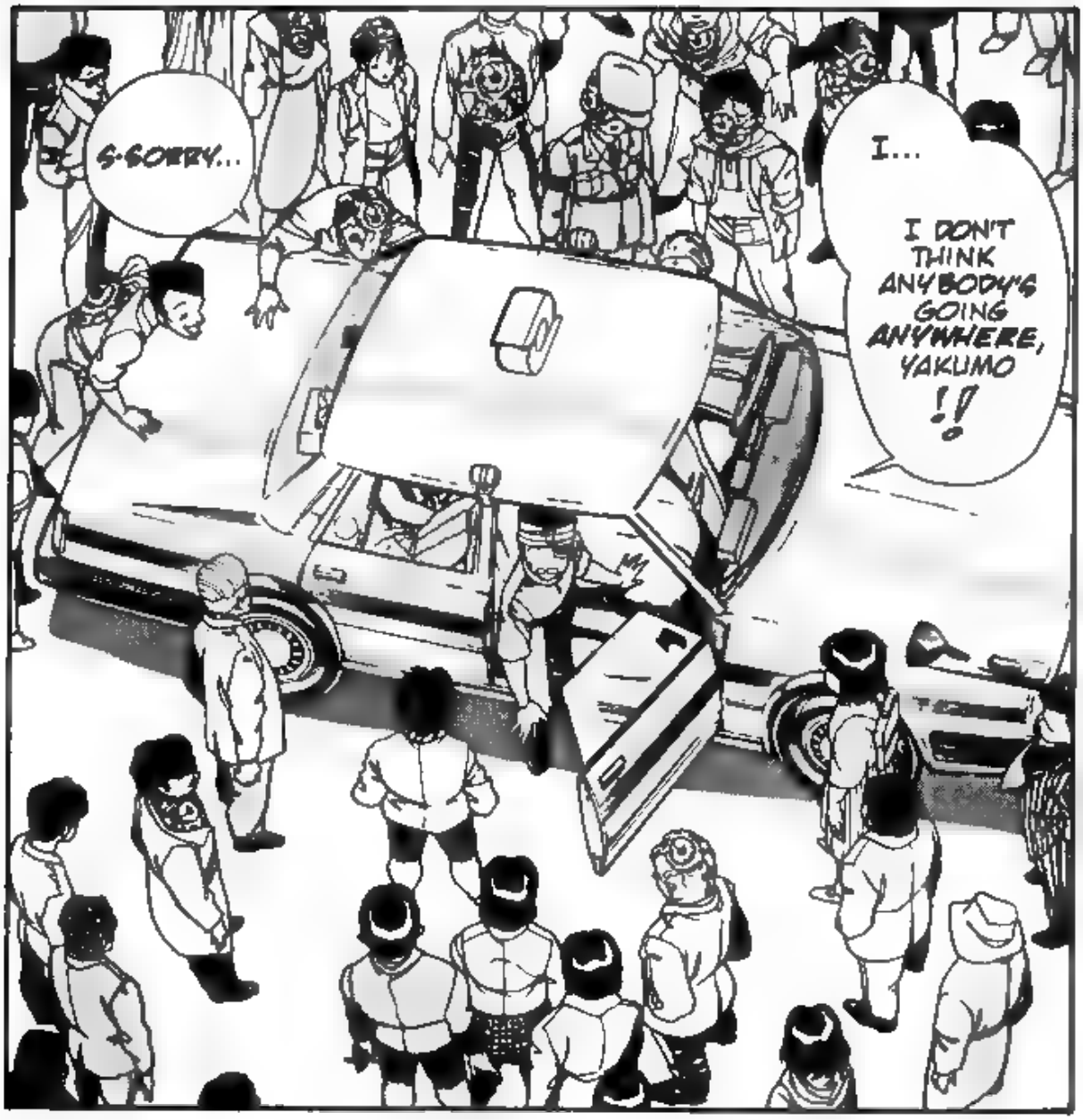
DAMN IT... AND I'D ALREADY MADE MY MIND UP TO LEAVE...
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT, DAMMIT... !!

THAT CREATURE IS GOING TO PAY FOR THIS !!

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, TATSU.
IF THERE'S A WAY TO CURE A "SUPERZOMBIE" LIKE ME, MAKE ME HUMAN AGAIN...
...THEN THERE'S GOTTA BE A WAY TO FIX UP NATSUKO, TOO!
EVEN IF I HAVE TO KILL THAT GODDAMN MONSTER, I'LL FIND THE WAY TO MAKE HER NORMAL AGAIN!
THANKS, YAKUMO...
ANYWAY, I NEED YOUR HELP HERE FOR A SEC. GET THIS WARD OFF OF PAI--I CAN'T TOUCH IT MYSELF.
HEY...?!
?!
SCREECH!

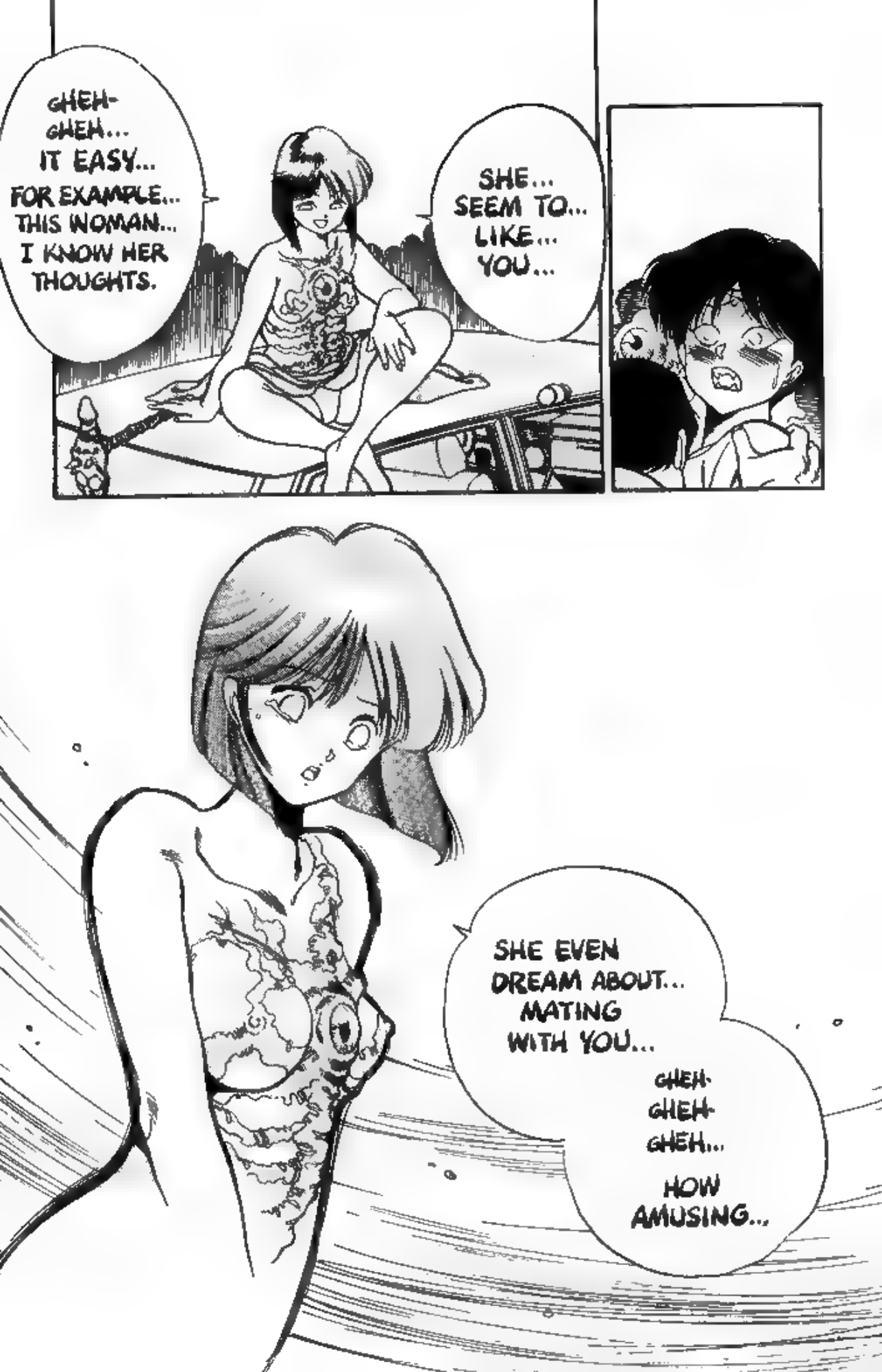
TAXI
ON DUTY
ER... IS SOMETHING WRONG, OFFICER?
NO...
THERE... IS... NOTHING... WRONG...
BKAM
HEH!
GHEH... GHEH-GHEH-GHEH!

OH, SHIT !!
TATSU, YOU GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE!

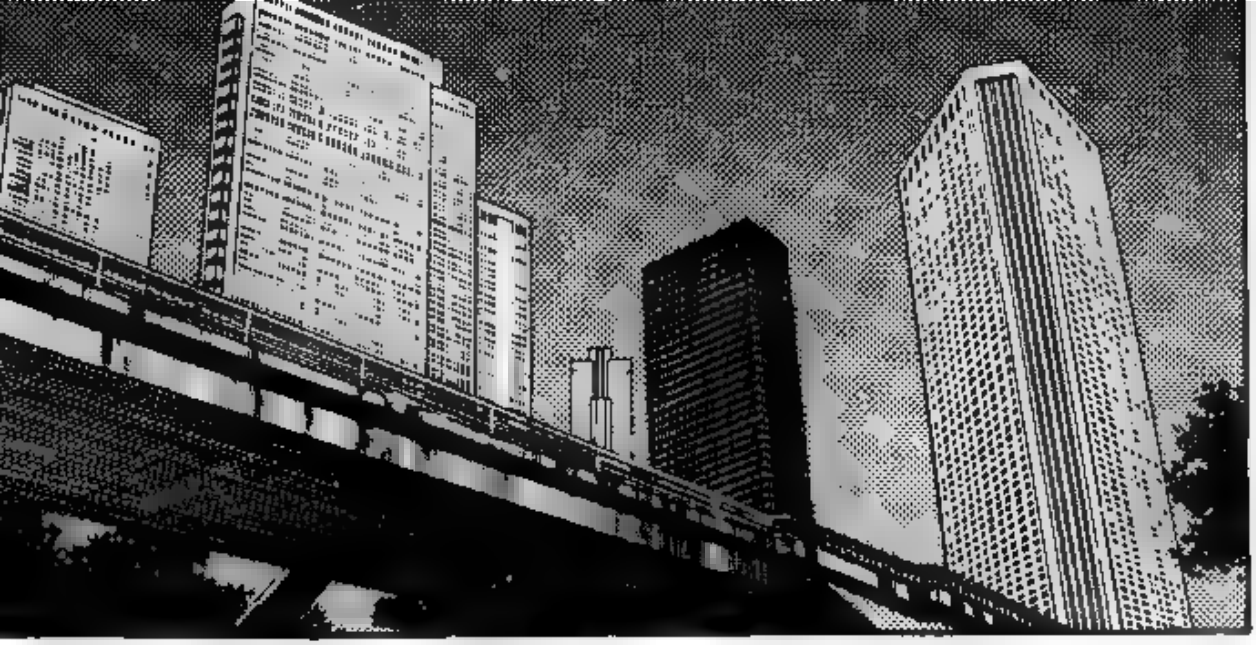

S-SORRY...
I...
I DON'T THINK ANYBODY'S GOING ANYWHERE, YAKUMO !!

NOW WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?! AT THIS RATE, I'M GOING TO GET KILLED BEFORE I CAN EVEN FIND THAT MONSTER, LET ALONE CURE NATSUKO!
AAAGH!!
I.. I GOTTA DO SOME-THING!
?!
NO!! PAI!!
YA... YAKUMO...
PAI!!

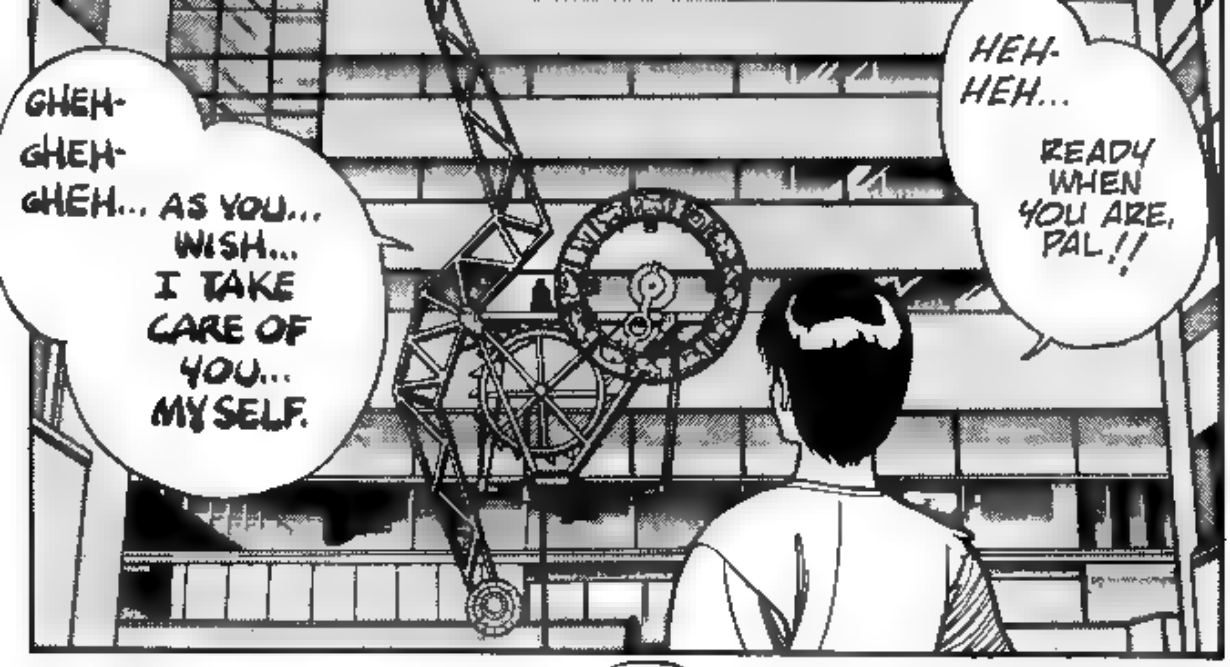
!!
GHEH-
GHEH-GHEH...
YOU ARE
WEAK...
DAMN YOU!
WHAT DO
YOU INTEND
TO DO WITH
HER?!
I...I
SHALL
CONSUME
HER...
MAKE HER...
PART OF
MYSELF.
THEN...
I SHALL
KNOW...
THE SECRET
OF...
IMMORTALITY...
THE
SECRET OF
IMMORTALITY?
B-BUT HOW
?

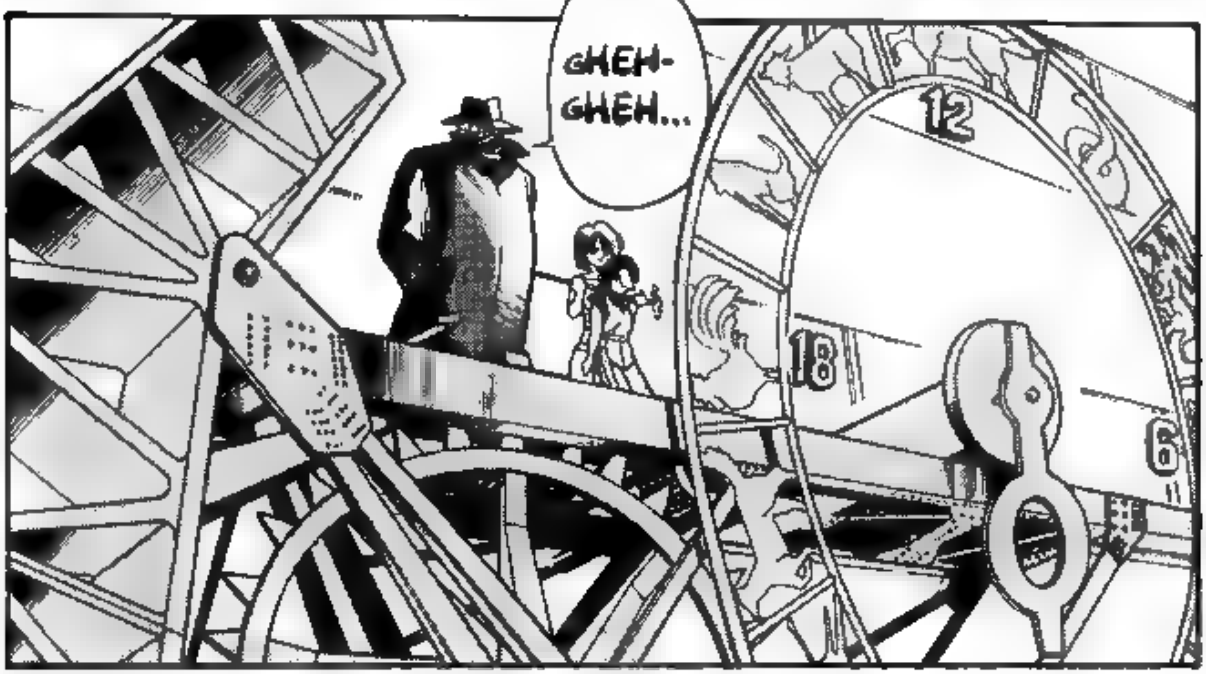

GHEH-
GHEH...
IT EASY...
FOR EXAMPLE...
THIS WOMAN...
I KNOW HER
THOUGHTS.
SHE...
SEEM TO...
LIKE...
YOU...
SHE EVEN
DREAM ABOUT...
MATING
WITH YOU...
GHEH-
GHEH-
GHEH...
HOW
AMUSING...

!!
WHY DON'T YOU... GIVE HER WHAT... SHE WANTS ?
DAMN HIM!
STOP IT!
JUST STOP IT, YOU BASTARD!
HAVEN'T YOU THE GUTS TO TAKE ME ON ALONE TO GET PAI?!
ARE YOU THAT AFRAID OF ME, YOU COWARD?!
"C-COWARD"...?
"AFRAID"...?



SO... YOU DARE CALL ME... COWARD...?
YOU SAY I AM... AFRAID?
GHEH-GHEH-GHEH!!
YOU... JUST... A MERE... WU...!

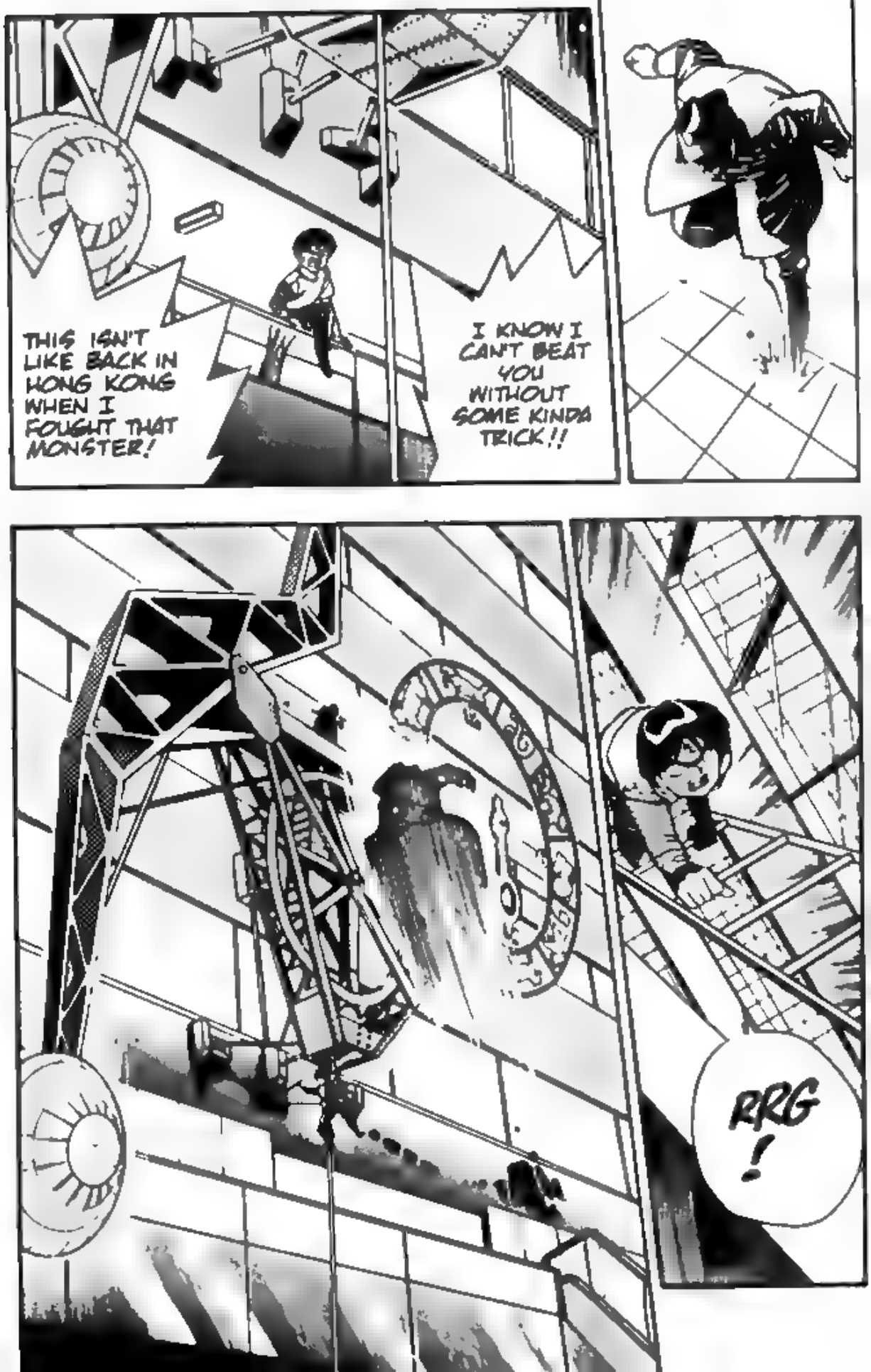

GHEH-
GHEH-
GHEH... AS YOU... WISH... I TAKE CARE OF YOU... MYSELF.
HEH-
HEH...
READY WHEN YOU ARE, PAL!!


GHEH-
GHEH...
12
18
6

THEN
DIE
ENOUGH TALK!!
COME ON!

WHUDD
YAKUMO!

URK!
UH-OH... THIS ISN'T GOING VERY WELL!
I SAID I WAS GOING TO MAKE HIM PAY, BUT I DON'T THINK I CAN BEAT HIM!
GHEH-GHEH!! YOU RUN AWAY ALREADY?!
NOW WHO IS COWARD?!
DAMN IT!
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU SAY!


THIS ISN'T LIKE BACK IN HONG KONG WHEN I FOUGHT THAT MONSTER!
I KNOW I CAN'T BEAT YOU WITHOUT SOME KINDA TRICK!!
RRG!

SO..YOU THINK YOU COME... ASK FOR THE... SANJIYAN'S HELP...?
DAMN IT ALL!

GHEH-GHEH-GHEH!!
I...WILL KEEP YOUR LIVING HEAD... IN A JAR... FOR ALL ETERNITY!!
SLASH
W-WAIT! I'VE GOT ONE LAST REQUEST!
WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO CURE NATSUKO?!

?!
ONLY WHEN I DIE!!
GHEH-GHEH... ONLY WHEN... I DIE, WEAKLING...

WHA-?!
YOU...YOU CANNOT...!!
THIS... IMPOSSIBLE!!
FWAP
SIZZ
LET'S SEE WHO LAUGHS LAST!
GESU !!

FWAP
!!
POP

TAKUHI
!

HMM... USING TAKUHI TO BLOW HIM UP FROM THE INSIDE...
...NOT BAD, WU.
THIS IS YOUR PUNISHMENT FOR NOT REMOVING THE WARD SOONER!
I-I WANT TO BECOME HUMAN AGAIN... !!
M-MY HEAD... ?

TO BE CONCLUDED NEXT ISSUE!

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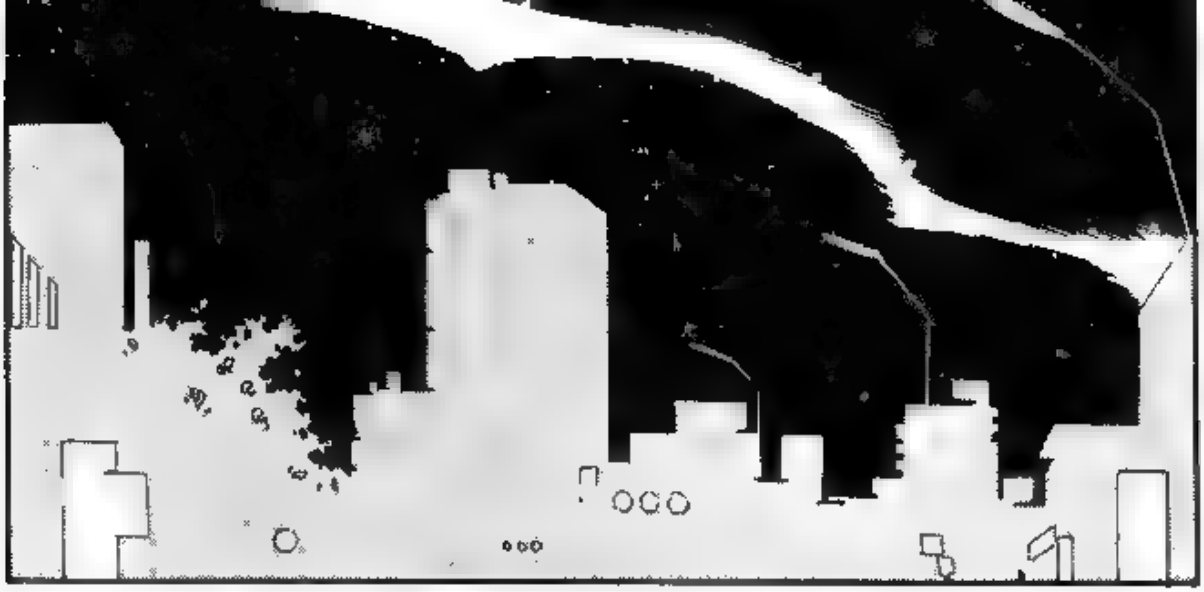
CURSE OF THE GESU
FINAL CHAPTER



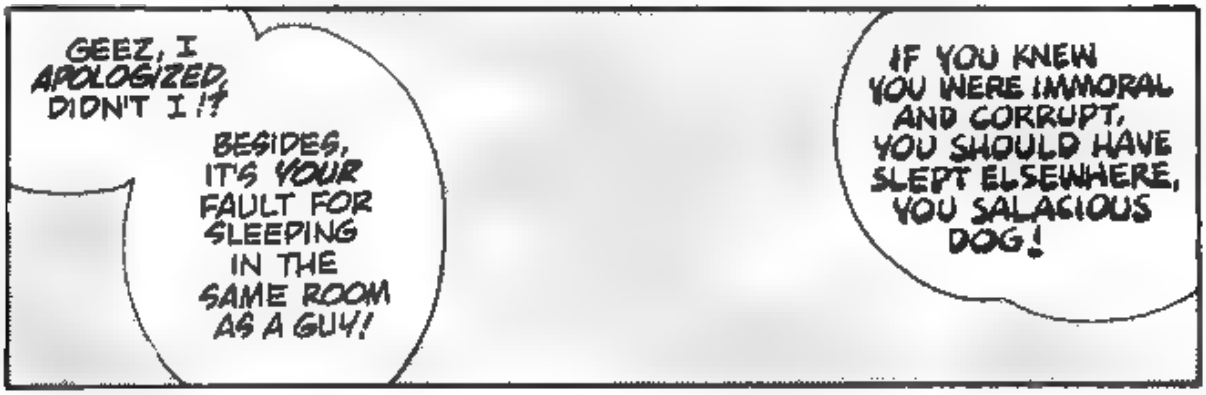
WE DEFEATED THE "GESU" MONSTER, AND THINGS ARE PRETTY MUCH BACK TO NORMAL.
IT'S BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE THE NIGHT...
. . . .
Day in the
LIFE

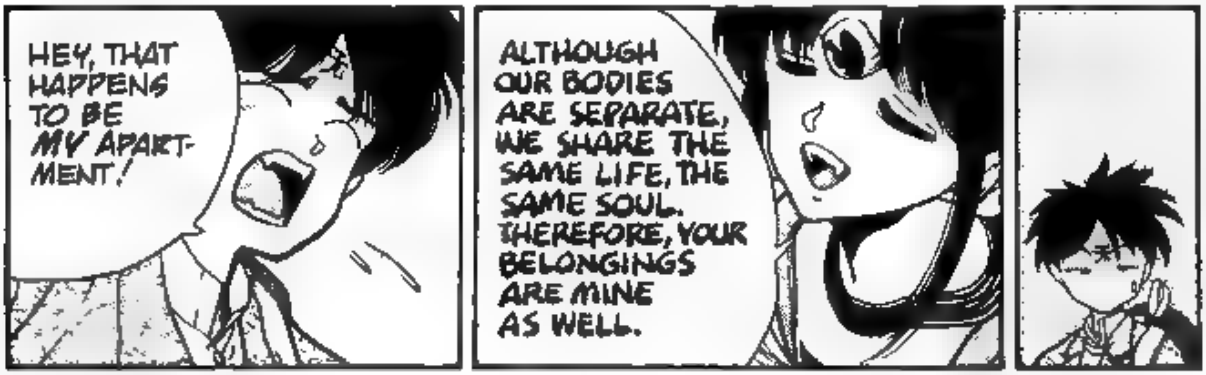
...AND AS FOR ME...
...
YAKUMO...
...I FIGURED THE WORST WAS OVER WITH.
AAAH!
B-CLUB
ALL RIGHT! MY HEAD'S FINALLY BACK ON AGAIN!
HEH-HEH...
NOW...
...I CAN FINALLY LEAVE JAPAN WITH MY HEAD STRAIGHT... SO TO SPEAK.

LESSEE... FIRST I'D BETTER TURN IN A LEAVE OF ABSENCE AT SCHOOL...
ZZZ
MAN... LOOK AT HER... SLEEPING LIKE A BABY.
I MEAN, DOESN'T SHE WORRY ABOUT HAVING A GUY IN THE SAME ROOM WITH HER...?

GULP!
EVEN THE SAINTS...
...WERE TEMPTED BY DEMONS.
IT'S NOT LIKE...
YAKUMO!
...SHE DOESN'T HAVE ANY FEELINGS FOR ME... RIGHT?
WEREN'T THEY?!
P...
PAI...
?!?
....
STOP!!
ZZZ
AIEE!!

FOOL
LIBERTINE
IDIOT
LECHEROUS SWINE!
I SWEAR, YOUNG FOLK THESE DAYS ARE WORSE THAN MOST MONSTERS!
hmph!

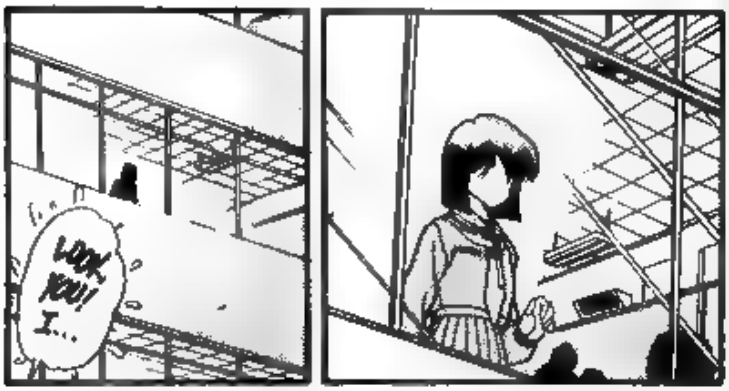

GEEZ, I APOLOGIZED, DIDN'T I!?
BESIDES, IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR SLEEPING IN THE SAME ROOM AS A GUY!
IF YOU KNEW YOU WERE IMMORAL AND CORRUPT, YOU SHOULD HAVE SLEPT ELSEWHERE, YOU SALACIOUS DOG!

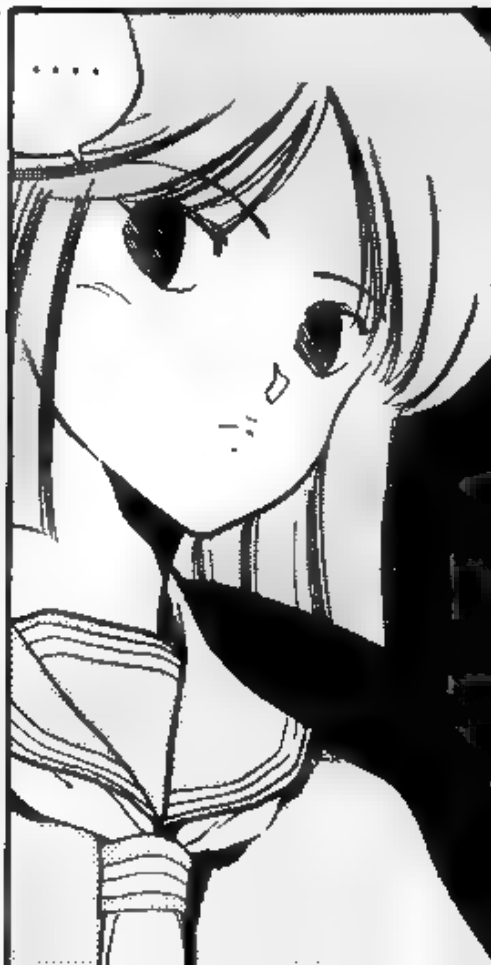

HEY, THAT HAPPENS TO BE MY APARTMENT!
ALTHOUGH OUR BODIES ARE SEPARATE, WE SHARE THE SAME LIFE, THE SAME SOUL. THEREFORE, YOUR BELONGINGS ARE MINE AS WELL.

YOU'RE NOT VERY CUTE WHEN YOU'RE LIKE THIS.
EXCELLENT-- THEN YOU WILL NOT TRY TO KISS ME AGAIN!
. . . .
. . . .
I DIDN'T...

LOOK...IT WAS JUST BECAUSE PAI LOOKED SO CUTE SLEEPING, I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF.
SO.. YOU HAVE FEELINGS FOR ME, THEN?

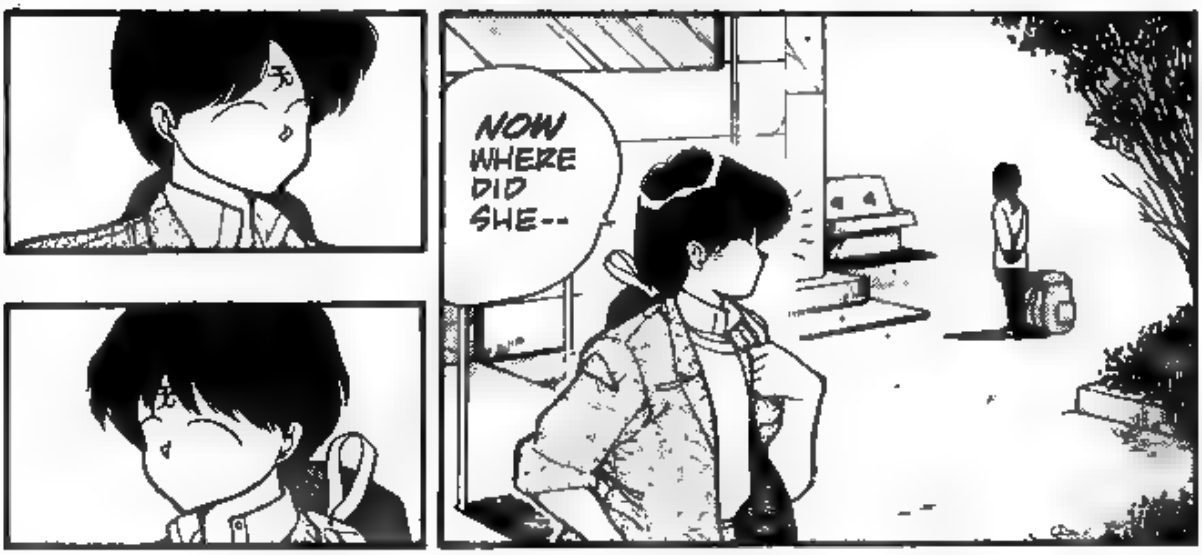
. . . .
. . . .
I HATE SPLIT PERSONALITIES...

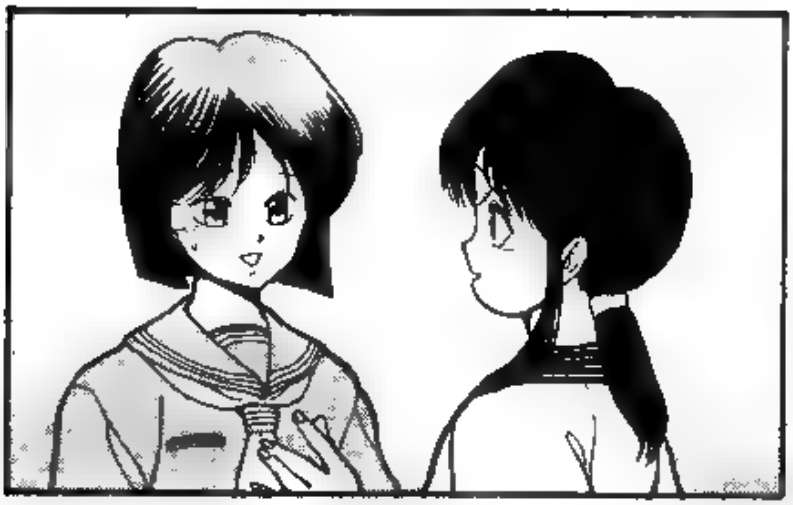

LOOK YOU! I...


. . . .

DAMN IT ALL, ANYWAY.
JUST WHAT AM I, TO THE SANJIYAN ?

AND TO PAI...?
→MMEW←...
NOW I GUESS WE GO TO NARITA AIRPORT...
...AND WAIT ON STANDBY FOR A FLIGHT.


NOW WHERE DID SHE--



SO.. YOU WISH TO KNOW WHAT SORT OF RELATIONSHIP I HAVE WITH YAKUMO?

UH...

WELL... IT'S JUST... UMM...

HE IS MY SLAVE.
MY RACE OF PEOPLE IS ABLE TO CAST SPELLS OF TREMENDOUS POWER.
BUT OUR BODIES ARE DRAINED BY THE USE OF THIS POWER, AND EVERY TIME WE CAST ONE, WE MUST SLEEP...SOMETIMES FOR DAYS.
IT IS MOST INCONVENIENT. WHILE ASLEEP, WE CANNOT PROTECT OURSELVES...

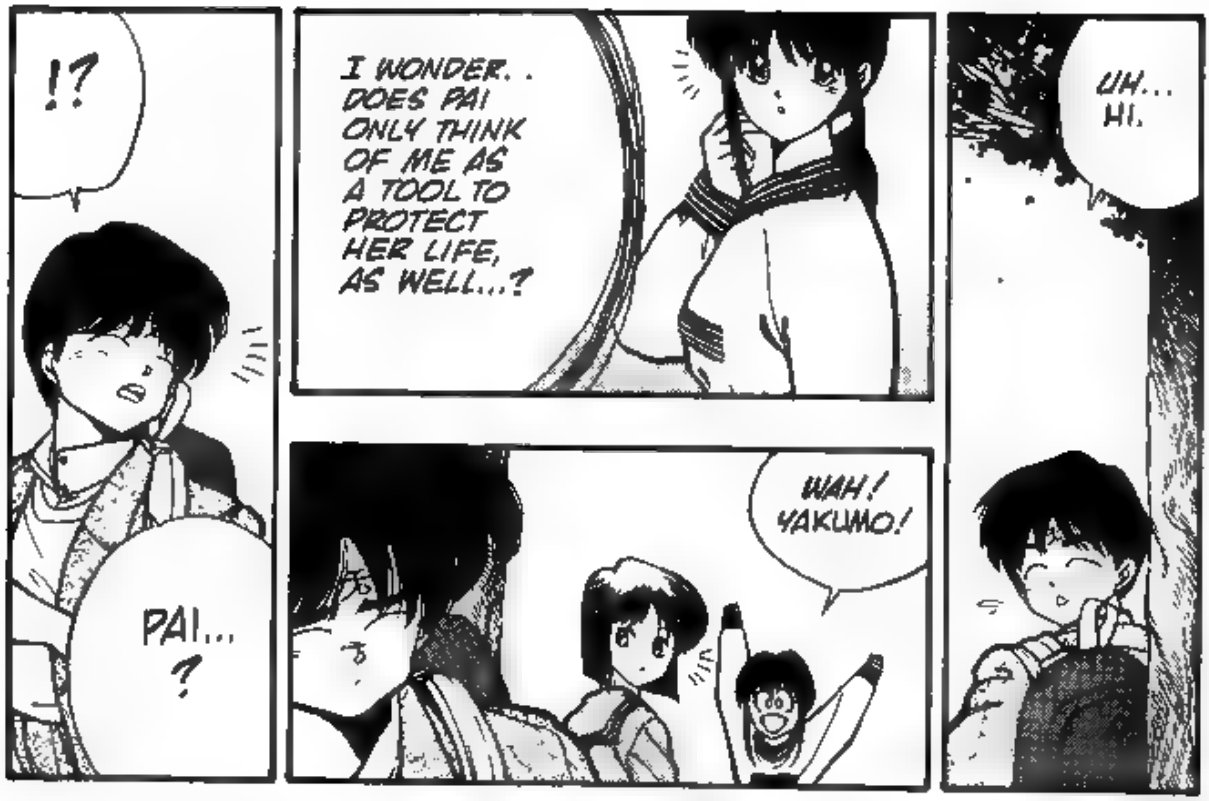
B-BUT...
...THEN YAKUMO IS...
YES, THE "WU 无" IS NOTHING BUT A TOOL TO PROTECT THE LIFE OF THE SANJIYAN.
THEY ARE IMMORTAL... BUT THEY HAVE NO FREEDOM.

Y-YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING!

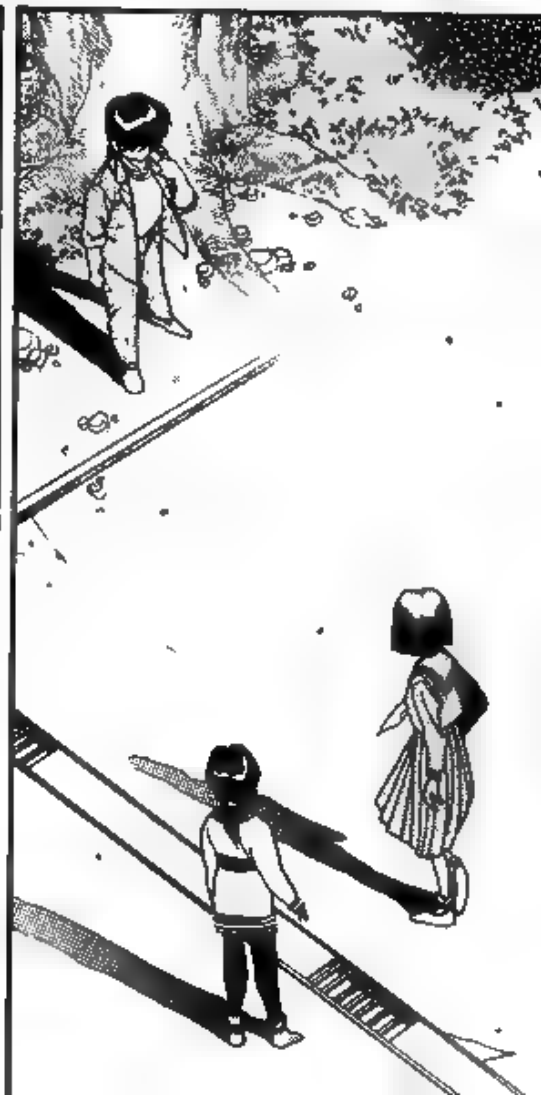
I'M JUST A SLAVE?! NO WAY!
THEN...

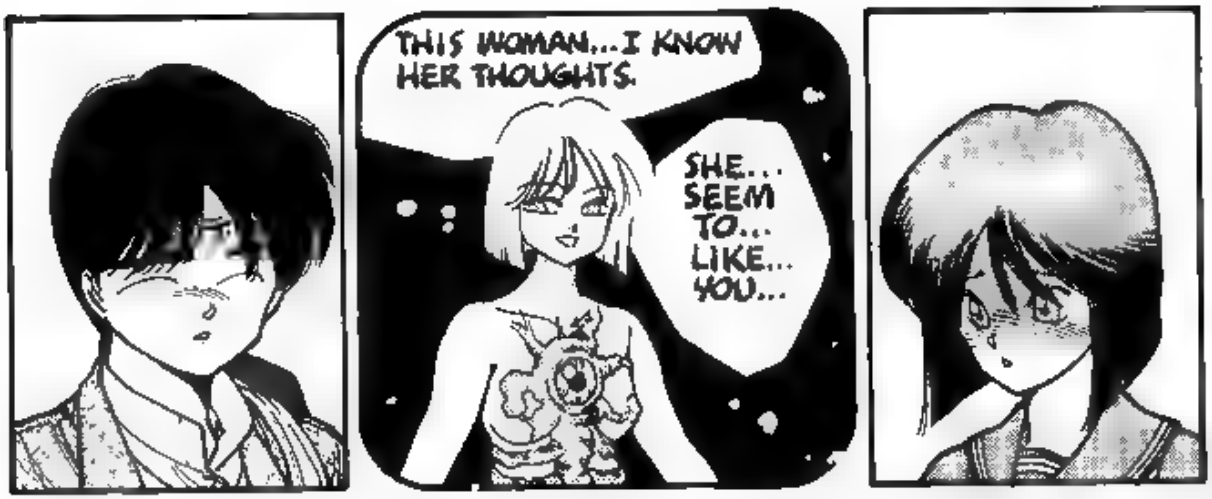
...CAN'T YOU FIND SOMEONE WHO'S BETTER AT FIGHTING...
...AND MAKE HIM A "WU" INSTEAD OF YAKUMO? PLEASE?!

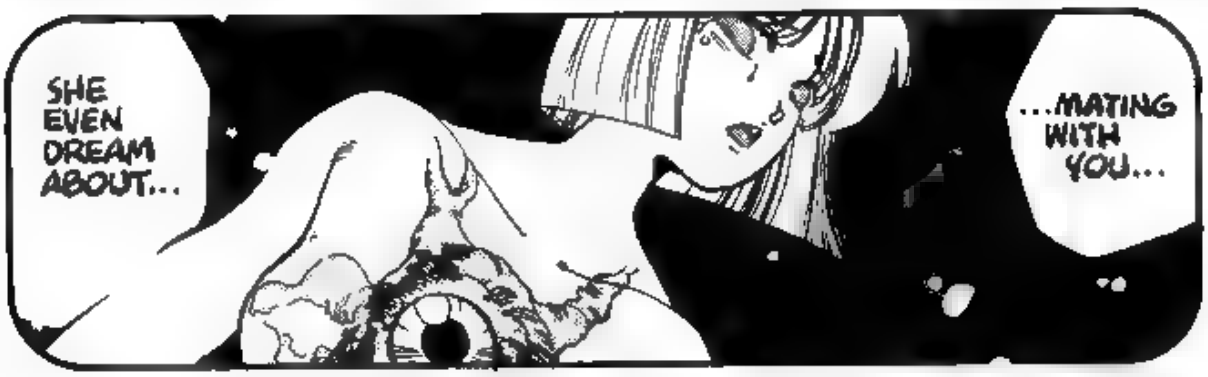
YOU CAN DO IT, CAN'T YOU !?
MAKE YAKUMO HUMAN AGAIN AND FIND SOMEONE ELSE! PLEASE!!
.....
FF TT
.....
WELL ?! CAN YOU OR CAN'T YOU!?
HUH ?
UM ? WHAT ?
HEY ?
HUH ? WHA-- ?
?
WHERE THIS ?


!?
PAI...?
I WONDER.. DOES PAI ONLY THINK OF ME AS A TOOL TO PROTECT HER LIFE, AS WELL...?
WAH! YAKUMO!
UH... HI.

.....
YAKUMO...




THIS WOMAN...I KNOW HER THOUGHTS.
SHE... SEEM TO... LIKE... YOU...

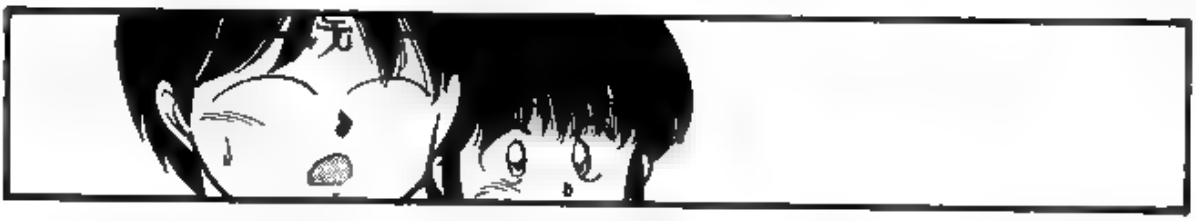

SHE EVEN DREAM ABOUT...
...MATING WITH YOU...

WHA-HA-HA-HA-HA-HA!
EH?

UMM... NATSUKO... I...

I... ER...

AW, C'MON!! CUT IT OUT!
HEH HEH
HEH
WHAT'RE YOU GETTING ALL SERIOUS ABOUT, YAKUMO?!
HEH HEH



DON'T TELL ME YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE ANYTHING THAT MONSTER SAID?!
I ONLY THINK OF YOU AS A GOOD FRIEND, YAKUMO...
HEH HEH
HEH
...SO DON'T GET ANY WEIRD IDEAS, OKAY? AND ANYWAY, YOU TWO ARE PERFECT FOR EACH OTHER...

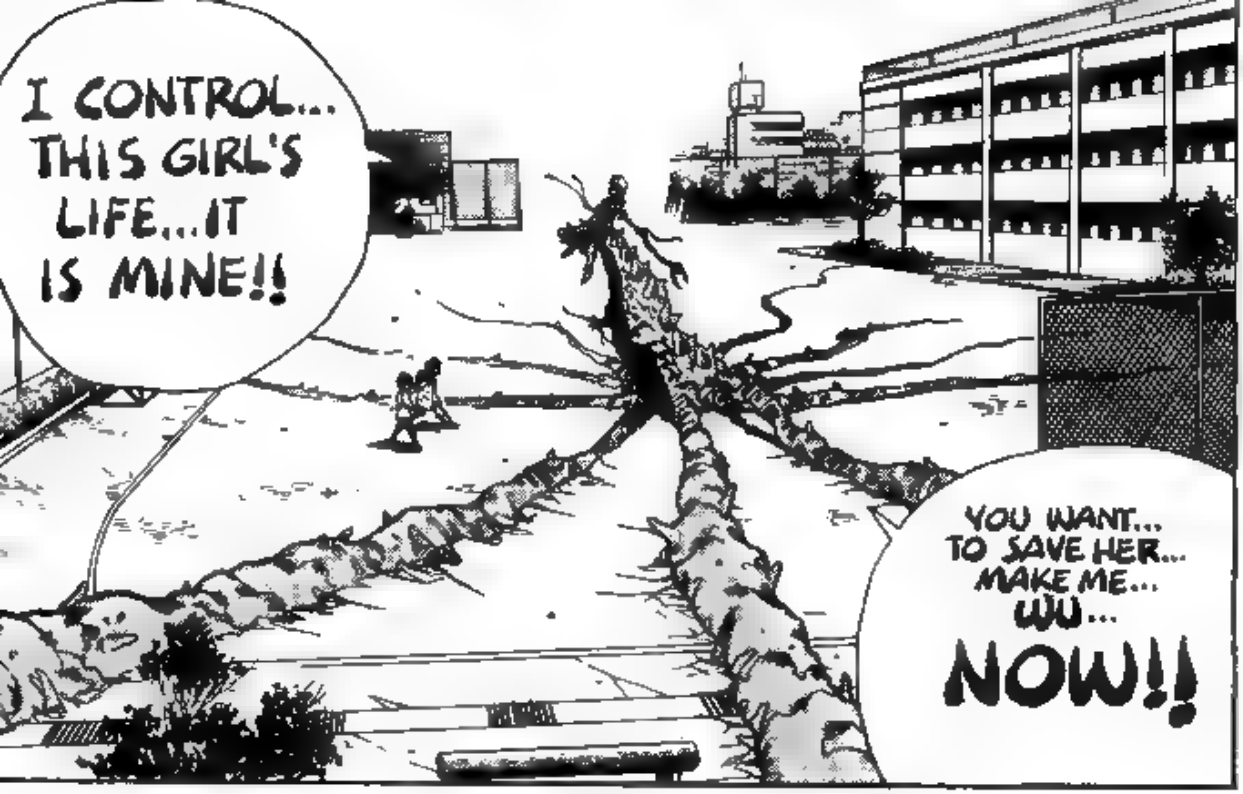
SO...SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME... JUST GET GOING!
NATSUKO ...

!?
NATSUKO!
WHA--?!
"DON'T WORRY"...?
GHEH...NO... I WANT... YOU TO WORRY!
THAT VOICE! IT'S--
EEEK!
SLICE
GURGHH
SLSSH
SPLKK

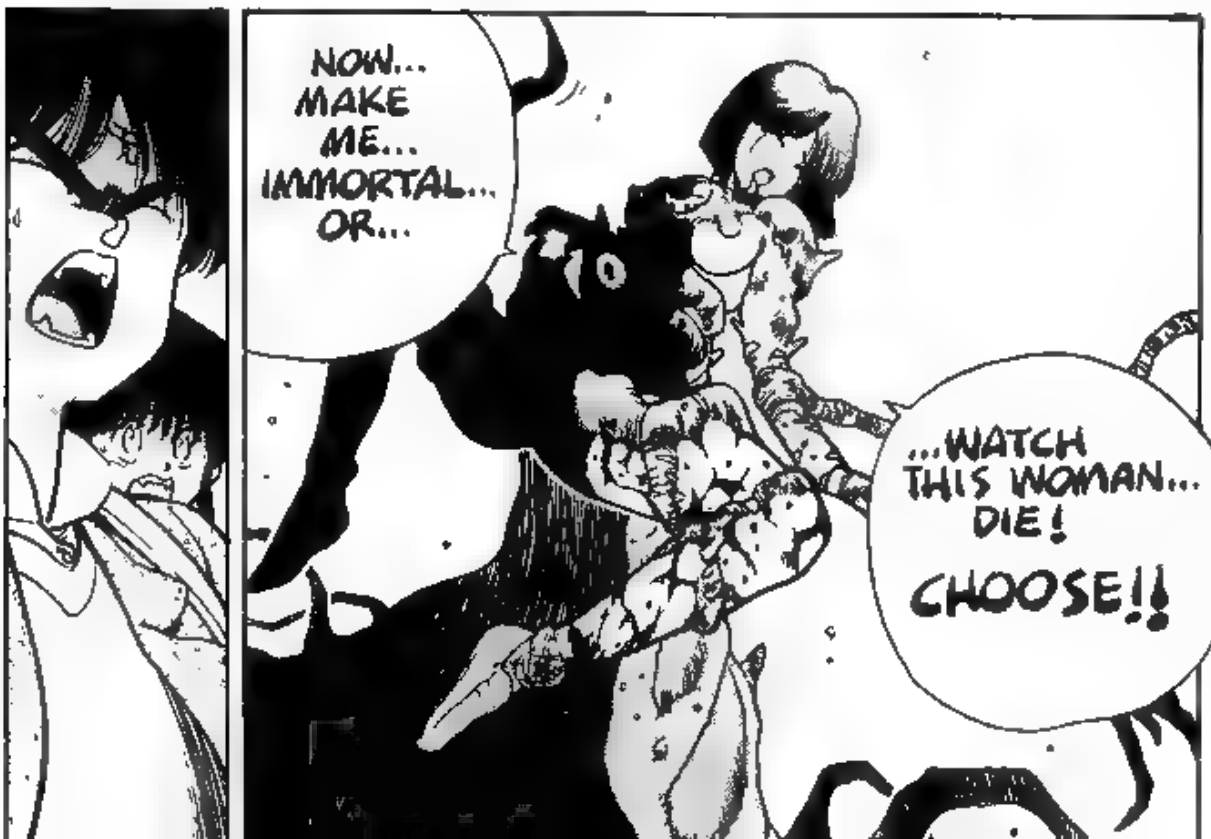
ぎち!

WHAT HAPPEN TO GIRL?!
YOU!! YOU'RE STILL ALIVE?!

FOOLISH HUU. YOU. ONLY DEFEATED AN EXTENSION OF MYSELF. I WAS HERE MERGED WITH THE WOMAN SINCE.. THE START..


I CONTROL... THIS GIRL'S LIFE...IT IS MINE!!
YOU WANT... TO SAVE HER... MAKE ME... WU... NOW!!

WHAT THE HELL ?!
WHAT IS THAT ?!
STAY IN THE BUILDING! IT COULD BE DANGEROUS.
A MONSTER...?!

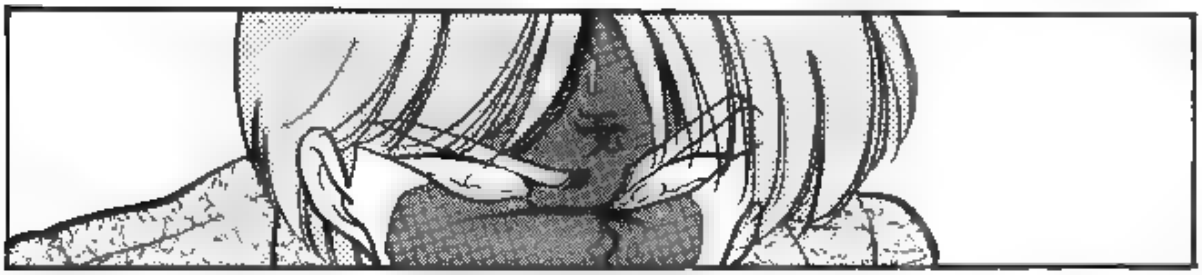

NOW... MAKE ME... IMMORTAL... OR...
...WATCH THIS WOMAN... DIE!
CHOOSE!!

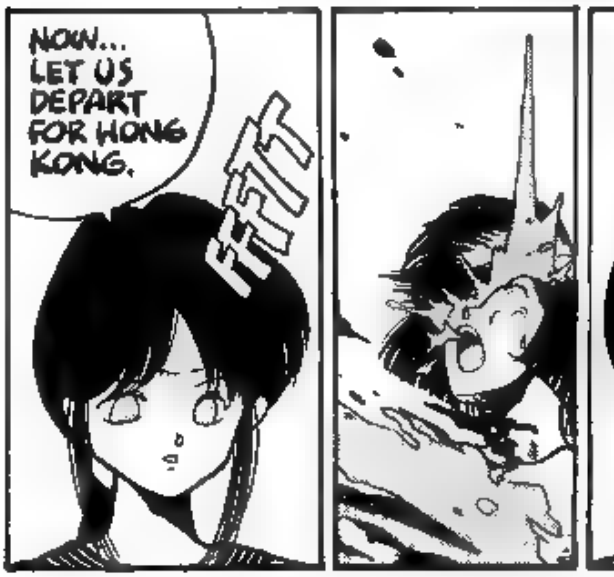
STOP IT!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE YOU INTO A WU!!
SPLAK
RIP
AH!!
IF YOU DO NOT... HURRY... THIS FEMALE WILL DIE
IF YOU CANNOT... THEN MAKE... THE SANJIYAN DO IT...

I WOULD NEVER MAKE A FILTHY GESU SUCH AS YOU INTO A WU.
SHUT UP AND HELP NATSUKO!
MAKE HIM INTO A WU!
SANJIYAN!
HURRY! HELP HER!
BOY...
...ARE YOU ORDERING ME AROUND...?

PLEASE! I BEG OF YOU! I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU ASK!! ANYTHING !!
PLEASE! JUST SAVE NATSUKO!

I REFUSE.
WHETHER THAT WOMAN LIVES OR DIES IS OF NO CONCERN TO ME.




NOW... LET US DEPART FOR HONG KONG.

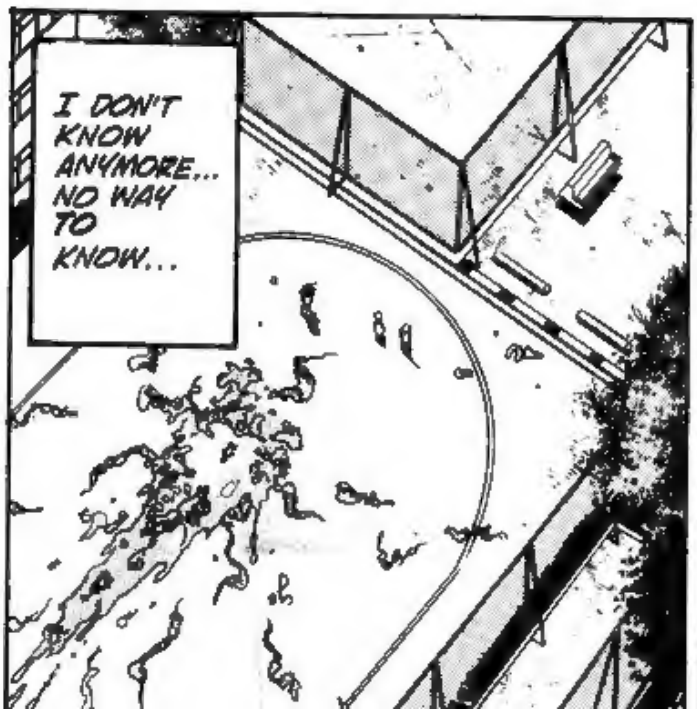
DAMN YOU TO HELL!
?!
I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU AGAIN!
HEY, UGLY! YOU WANT AN IMMORTAL BODY?!
THEN MERGE WITH ME AND TAKE MINE!

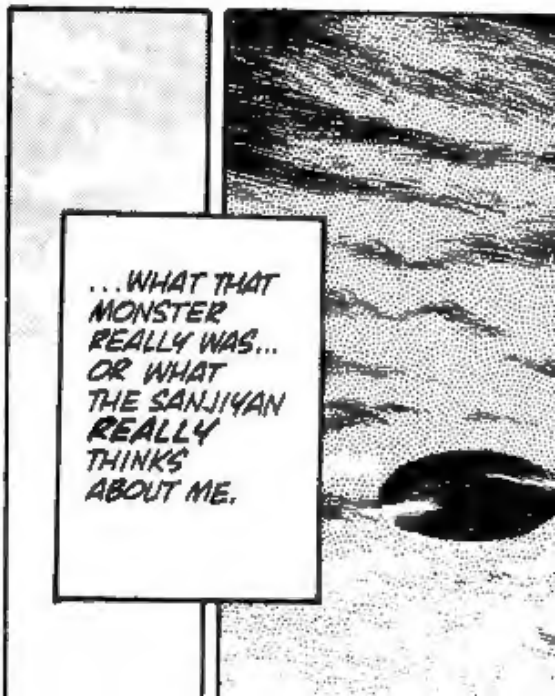
YES... YES... THAT WILL WORK !!
I WILL TAKE... YOUR BODY!!

FAREWELL, EVERYONE !
MISS!
FAREWELL, PAI!
PAI ?!

!!
FOOL! IF YOU CANNOT DEFEAT THE LIKES OF HIM ON YOUR OWN, THEN MAYBE YOU ARE NOT WORTHY OF EVEN BEING MY SLAVE!
SA--
SANJIVAN!
WHEN I SLEEP MY DEEPEST...
...DON'T YOU TRY ANYTHING FUNNY, MY LECHEROUS WU!

ちくしょう!!


I DON'T KNOW ANYMORE... NO WAY TO KNOW...


...WHAT THAT MONSTER REALLY WAS... OR WHAT THE SANJIYAN REALLY THINKS ABOUT ME.

BUT EVEN STILL, WITH BOTH THE SANJIYAN AND PAI...
THANKS...
...AND YOU TAKE CARE, YAKUMO.
...PRETTY MUCH...
GOOD LUCK, YAKUMO! HURRY UP AND COME BACK AS A HUMAN BEING!
...I THINK...
...I LOVE THEM.
THE END OF 3X3 EYES: CURSE OF THE GESU